SPORTS / A24

Schumacher announces retirement from Formula One racing

METRO / A19

13-year-old girl falls to death in Pasay City amusement park

NEWS / A2

Imelda picks Batac hilltop as final Marcos burial site

SPORTS / A23

Federer rips Roddick for 3rd straight US Open title

GMA opens door to UN, EU human rights probers

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

MALACAÑANG—PRESIDENT MACAPAGAL-ARROYO is opening her human rights record to the scrutiny of both the United Nations and civil society groups in Europe confident they will be able to separate "fact from fiction."

Hounded by questions about her determination to end the wave of political killings in the

CONTINUED ON A-10

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Tuesday, September 12, 2006 ★★ 4 sections / Vol. 21 / No. 276 P18 newsinfo.inquirer.net

Palparan shares Army honors with pet dogs

By Dona Z. Pazzibugan

WITH HIS PET DOGS ON stage and hundreds of pro-and-wrong supporters on the parade grounds with the troops, controversial Maj. Gen. Jovito Palparan Jr. had it his way on his final day

CONTINUED ON A-6

House grabs 2 AFP spies

Military execs still no-shows in probe of leftists' slays

By Michael Lim Ubac

TWO MILITARY AGENTS were detained by the House committee on human rights yesterday for alleged spying after they were caught taking videos and pictures of its hearing on political killings.

Sgt. Julius Soriano and Sgt. Colin Calayong of the Armed Forces of the Philippines Civil Relations Service (AFP-CRS) were held for about two hours by House security for illegally documenting the proceedings.

Defense and military officers snubbed the hearings for a second time, and the irony of the presence of two military agents—both in civilian clothes—in their midst was not lost on the congressmen.

"The problem with the AFP is they ignore congressional inquiries and instead send spies," said party-list Rep. Satur Ocampo, leader of Bayan Muna which has lost 118 of its members to so-called military "death squads" since 2001.

Manila Rep. Bienvenido Abante, committee chair, was flustered.

"This is not right. This is an insult to the institution. This is a breach of trust. The military should respect Congress. I'm starting to get peeved," Abante told reporters.

It took an apology from Commander Amable Tuzon Jr., chief of the AFP-CRS, for Soriano and Calayong to be released.

Saying the AFP had twice ignored his committee's summonses, Abante re-

HOUSE/ A4

"THE MAGICIAN" Efren "Bata" Reyes of the Philippines gushes over the silver trophy and $500,000 cash prize he won in the International Pool Tour's World Open 8-Ball Championship in Reno, Nevada.

'Bata' Reyes pockets ₱25-M pool prize

FILIPINO BILLIARDS ACE EFREN "BATA" Reyes won the biggest prize in his sport on Sunday earning $500,000 (P25.5 million) after rolling the International Pool Tour 2006 World Open 8-Ball championship at the Grand Sierra Resort and Casino in Reno, Nevada.

The 52-year-old former World 9-Ball champion from Angeles City beat American Rodney "Rocket" Morris, 8-6, in a showdown between two survivors from a starting field of 300 players representing 27 countries.

Trailing 2-4 at the start, the man known to the world of pool as "The Magician" elevated his game to win six of the last eight racks. He avenged his 8-7 loss to Morris a day earlier in the Final 6 stage of the $3-million tournament.

Reyes, who made it to the title duel as No. 2 to the Final 6 behind the Americans, reached the hill in 7-5 to be cleaned up after Morris scratched on the break.

He clinched it with a run-out after the No. 15 ball sent the No. 2 ball flying into the right pocket on the break.

The explosive victory came two weeks after Reyes and his close friend, Francisco "Django" Bustamante, captured the inaugural staging of the World Cup of Pool over Mearls and his American partner, Earl Strickland, in New South Wales.

Bata and Django split the $80,000 first prize in the World Cup. Reyes also picked up $65,000 in July by placing fourth in the IPT North American Open.

This time, Reyes captured a prize wor-

BATA REYES/ A-19

Solons push extradition of Bolante

By Juliet Labog-Javellana

SENATORS YESTERDAY CALLED ON the United States to extradite former Agriculture Undersecretary Jocelyn "Joc-joc" Bolante to face charges in connection with the alleged use of P728 million in fertilizer funds for President Macapagal-Arroyo's reelection in 2004.

Saying it was ironic that it took a foreign country to take Bolante to task for the plunder of public funds, Sen. Ramon Magsaysay Jr. said the Ombudsman should take its cue and start filing charges against Bolante.

"It's what you call justice catching up. If justice in the Philippines is slow and doesn't [work], justice in the US shows that it's working," Magsaysay said. "It is an irony, it is paradoxical [but it shows that] everything is globalized. If there is injustice in the Philippines, it will catch up wherever he [Bolante] goes."

A Chicago immigration court is scheduled to hear Bolante's plea for political asylum in the United States on Wednesday (Thursday in Manila) reportedly be-

SOLONS/ A10

LANCE Cpl. Daniel Smith identifies the woman with whom he said he had consensual sex in this artist's sketch.

US Marine details sex act

By Tarra V. Quismundo and Volt Contreras

THE 21-YEAR-OLD US MARINE accused of raping a Filipino woman in a van last year told a Makati court that the sex was consensual, with "blonde," the complainant's pseudonym, helping him put on a condom.

Lance Cpl. Daniel Smith took the

US MARINE/ A10

Divided world remembers 9/11 terror attacks

US PRESIDENT George W. Bush (center) and First Lady Laura Bush are assisted by a military honor guard as they lay a wreath on the reflecting pool at "Ground Zero."

TOKYO—A DIVIDED WORLD REMEMbered the fifth anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks, with allies in the war on terror renewing their resolve to fight Americans and militants blaming Washington's response as ineffective and pledging continued resistance.

Five years after terrorists wrought death from clear skies in America, remembrances were held in Japan, Australia, Thailand, South Korea, Thailand and Indonesia.

For its part, al-Qaida released a video tribute to the planning of the attacks on New York and Washington, which killed nearly 3,000 people, while the terror network's No. 2 leader, Ayman al-Zawahri, called on Muslims to step up their resistance against the United States.

Monday's outpouring of emotion reflected an international landscape vastly changed since terrorists hijacked four airliners in 2001, crashing two into New York's World Trade Center, one into the Pentagon and another into a Pennsylvania field.

The brash attacks claimed 2,973 lives, stunned the world, and unleashed the US military's reach from Afghanistan to Iraq.

On Sunday, US President George W. Bush and his wife, Laura, stood in somber silence after laying wreaths where the twin towers of the World Trade Center once soared. He later pledged "renewed resolve" to remember the lessons of Sept. 11.

On Monday, Bush was scheduled to visit the two other attack sites—Shanksville, Pennsylvania, where 40 people were killed when a jet crashed into the ground, and the Pentagon in Arlington, Virginia—just outside Washington—where 184 died.

DIVIDED/ A6

Jolo folk rail against 1906 US killings

JOLO, SULU—AS AMERICANS REFLECTed on the horror of Sept. 11, 2001, villagers on this Western Mindanao island sought an apology for the killings by the US cavalry a century ago and asked visiting American troops to leave.

A forum on Islam and democracy partly organized by the US state department over the weekend on Jolo island, stirred reactions to those violent events, which happened in two starkly different worlds but which continue to affect a raging conflict.

A US military commander, however, urged the villagers to move beyond the past.

"I think it's just important that we not be held hostage to history," US Army Col. James Linder, the top American commander in the Philippines, told villagers in Patikul.

Linder outlined US humanitarian projects across the impoverished island, a bastion of Abu Sayyaf bandits who have been linked to al-Qaida.

"I won't stay here and make an excuse for something that happened 100 years ago," he said. "We truly do mean to do good things to the people on this island."

Despite US attempts to move on, the events of 1906, when hundreds of Jolo villagers were killed by US soldiers, may be complicating Washington's ability to prevent terrorists from using Western Mindanao as a base for attacks and terrorist training.

US troops, who are barred by Philippine law from engaging in combat, have been building roads and schools, digging wells, and providing medical services in an effort to win hearts and minds as pre-

JOLO/ FOUR/ A6

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2006

WEATHER FORECAST

Second **FRONTPAGE**

Final Marcos resting place found

Imelda picks Batac hilltop

FORMER FIRST LADY IMELDA MARCOS FOUND A PERfect birthday gift for her late husband yesterday, saying the last arranged his final resting place at the family's property, a choice that could end years of controversy over his body.

Marcos, ousted in a 1986 "people power" revolt, died three years later in exile in Hawaii. His preserved body has been displayed in a glass coffin in his hometown of Batac, Ilocos Norte, since it was flown back to the Philippines in 1993.

Mrs. Marcos, who gained fame for her ill-accessorized sister, four and 1,220 pairs of shoes, pursued a campaign earlier this year for her husband to be buried at the Libingan ng mga Bayani in Fort Bonifacio, pointing out that he was a decorated World War II hero and former commander-in-chief.

But many protested in a country still reeling from his 20-year dictatorship, as Mrs. Marcos and daughter Imy, Ilocos Marcos, said they've settled on a green hilltop on the side of the Cordillera mountain range, near the mausoleum where his body lies.

"It should be a coming home for my dad because this is his hometown," Imee said as the Marcos family greeted hundreds of well-wishers for Ferdinand Marcos' 89th birthday.

"He will be buried among nature, nature is God's gift," Imelda Marcos said. The directional focus by telephone. "My shoulder the place because it's not part of controversy. He does not (...) We don't want to cause any more controversies."

Imee, an opposition lawmaker, said the planned burial ground includes a visitors' center, a viewing deck and a museum. The center would encompass seven gardens, including "a healing garden" and "a rainy garden," she said. Imeldas' seven was Marcos' magic number.

"There should be an underground library where he would be buried with his favorite things. My dad was an extremely modest man so we'll only put a cross, a spire," Imee Marcos said.

Although still enjoying a degree of popularity—particularly in Marcos' home province—and political power, the Marcoses are reviled by many, including thousands of former political prisoners still waiting for compensation for human rights abuses. Others denounce their alleged plundering of the economy the subject of protracted litigation.

In 1995, some 10,000 Filipinos won a US class-action lawsuit against the Marcos estate for torture, execution and disappearances of dissidents. The award has nearly doubled to 1.844 billion with interest as appeals drag on. Some of the plaintiffs have received money, and no other lawsuits have yielded payout awards. AP

THE OLD order has still role in the most elections with the long overdue poll conspiracies still nowhere in sight.

Comelec finalizes plans for '07 polls, sets deadlines

By Jerome Aning

THE COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS (Comelec) has finalized plans and schedules for next year's mid-term polls, despite the efforts of some groups to unseat the Commission and cancel the 2007 elections altogether.

The Comelec's six commissioners have also divided the 17 regions of the country among themselves to oversee, as well as handed out their respective assignments such as the procurement and distribution of election paraphernalia, the monitoring of local and overseas absentee voting, and overseeing voter education and the purchase.

Some 43 million voters are expected to elect 12 senators, 236 district and party-list representatives, and thousands of local officials from provincial governor to municipal councilor.

Under the Comelec timetable, overseas absentee voters have until Sept. 30 to register in their embassies or consulates across the globe.

Following a recent Supreme Court ruling, Filipinos who register as absentee voters will no longer be required to execute affidavits indicating their intent to return to the Philippines.

Those abroad who want to vote in a third country or in the Philippine Embassy they would like their out-absentee Aug should file their transfer papers also on or before Sept. 30.

The Comelec committee on overseas absentee voting, chaired by Commissioner Resurreccion Borra Jr., will prepare the national registry of absentee voters on Dec. 19. The last day to file petitions for exclusion, reinstatement or correction of names is on Dec. 29.

In the Philippines, all qualified voters have until Dec. 30 to register at their city or municipal Comelec offices under the agency's continuing registration program. Those moving or reactivating their voter's registration must also do so by that date.

But organizations wishing to join the party-list system of the House of Representatives, the deadline for the filing of petitions is Sept. 16.

On Sept. 25, the Comelec 9th and seventh committee will open the sealed bids for the printing, supply and delivery of office supplies and forms at the agency's main office in Intramuros.

Representatives of the Commission on Audit, Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Parish Pastoral Council for Responsible Voting and the participating bidders will be on hand. The Comelec has allotted P3.33 million for office supplies.

The campaign period will be from Jan. 14 to June 13, 2007, during which prohibitions, such as on the carrying of firearms and other deadly weapons, the organization or reinstatement of private or strike forces, and the transfer of civil service officials and employees, shall be in effect.

Certificates of candidacy and manifestations of intent to participate in the party-list system may be filed between Jan. 15 and Feb. 12.

Feb. 13 is also the deadline for the filing of certificates of candidacy for the Senate.

Candidacies for the House of Representatives as well as for governor, vice governor, provincial board member, mayor, vice mayor and councilor must be filed by March 29.

The campaign period will begin the day after the deadline of filing of candidacies. May 12 will be the last day of the campaign period.

A BUS undergoes smoke emission test along Edsa in Quezon City. INQUIRER/RYAN LEE

OMBUDSMAN ORDERS PROBE

Where there's smoke there's corruption?

By Norman Bordadora

IF LAND TRANSPORTATION officials are strictly enforcing vehicle emission tests, how come there are still so many smoke belchers on the road, and air pollution remains at alarming levels in Metro Manila?

The question is being asked by Ombudsman Merceditas Gutierrez who has ordered an investigation into possible corruption in the issuance of certificates of emission compliance to motor vehicle owners and the registration of their vehicles by the Land Transportation Office.

The country's chief graftbuster said the smelly acrid-exhaust-emitting (SAE) dealings by LTO personnel, possibly in connivance with Department of Trade and Industry-accredited emission testing centers, ...

A motorist is required to get a CEC from these accredited testing centers before their vehicles can be registered by the LTO.

"How come smoke-belching vehicles are able to renew their registration?" said Gutierrez, adding that she has noted many smoke-belching vehicles on the road in the commute to and from her office.

"Smoke-belching is one of the causes of air pollution, which is a hazard to general health," Gutierrez said in a statement.

"The most common smoke-belchers are passenger buses followed by PU jeeps, delivery vans or trucks, and private vehicles," she added.

Under the Clean Air Act, the tolerable level of particles in the air at any given period is 230 ug/Ncm. However, data from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources-Environmental Management Bureau showed that for Jan. to June this year, the MMV Pasay area, for instance, registered a level of air pollution ranging from 269 ug/Ncm to 401 ug/Ncm.

Storm enters RP area

By Blanche S. Rivera

TROPICAL STORM "Lekima" entered the Philippine Area of Responsibility Sunday night but appeared headed for a quick exit.

Packing sustained winds of 65 kph near the center and gustiness of 100 kph, Lekima was spotted by satellite image 1,130 km east of northern Luzon and headed toward Japan and Taiwan.

The Philippine Atmospheric Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (Pagasa) said Lekima, the 12th tropical cyclone to enter the country this year, is not expected to directly affect any part of the country.

However, the active low pressure area 470 km east southeast of Baguio is expected to enhance the southwest monsoon that will bring occasional rains over Luzon and Western Visayas, according to the weather bureau.

"Residents in these areas are advised to take all the necessary precautions against flash floods and landslides," Pagasa said in its severe weather bulletin.

Lekima, which has gained strength since it entered the Par, is now moving northwest at 11 kph and should be 600 km northeast of Aparri, Cagayan, by Thursday morning.

Cash for a new flat screen TV.

Fast. Easy. No collateral.

Get a chance to Win a Ford Focus

From August 23 to October 23, 2006 get a CitiFinancial loan and get a chance to win a Ford Focus 1.8L or a fabulous trip to Boracay or Palawan.

See Rules for details. Pre-CFI-NCR Permit No. ... series of 2006

Call CitiFinancial now at 750-0322 or Text CASH & send to: 2327 for Globe or 0917-890-2327 for Smart & Sun Cellular.

Ford | PERSONAL LOANS | SEAIR

citi financial

A member of citigroup

Look Fabulous At 40 And Beyond!

The Facial Care Centre Rejuvenation Program™ is a specially designed system to counter the effects of aging. It takes away years off your face and brings back your skin's natural elasticity and suppleness. Look refreshed as wrinkles are diminished, crevices and bags are ironed up, and dark spots are erased. The result: flawless, clear, taut skin with a healthy glow. Guaranteed to make you look and feel at least 5 years younger. It's your time to look fabulous.

Get a FREE Facial Care Centre Rejuvenation Program™

OFFER GOOD FOR THE 1ST 40 ENROLLEES ONLY!

from September 11-16, 2006 only.

Call 892-SKIN (7546)

www.facialcarecentre.com.ph

facial care CENTRE

MAKATI ORTIGAS TOMAS MORATO BINONDO ALABANG SHAW CONGRESSIONAL PAMPANGA (961-3888) CEBU (232-7631)

Tax-mapping drive snares 2,089 Metro firms

By Cynthia Balana

A TOTAL OF 2,089 business establishments in Metro Manila alone have been entered into the Bureau of Internal Revenue's Tax Compliance Verification Drive (TCVD) since the start of the year for violations ranging from the non-issuance of receipts to the use of unauthorized cash registers.

Revenue Commissioner Jose Mario Buting said the establishments used, under the TCVD, were popularly known as tax-mapping, were mostly in the districts of Tondo, Binondo, Quiapo, Sta. Mesa, Sampaloc, Sta. Cruz, Ermita, Intramuros, Pandacan and Sta. Ana.

He did not identify the establishments, saying cases were being studied against some of them.

Other businesses readily paid the fines when BIR inspection teams entered the stores and discovered their violations, Buting said. He said that so far the BIR had collected P826,528 in penalties this year.

Those establishments that protested their apprehension were also slapped with fines, De la Cruz said.

According to Buting, "Tons of thousands of establishments have already been apprehended nationwide under our operation for such violations as the failure of the businesses to register with the BIR, failure to issue duly registered receipts or invoices, and the use of unregistered receipts, invoices, cash registers and printout cash machines."

He said BIR field personnel had been conducting weekly inspections of businesses not only in Metro Manila but across the country.

Practicing professionals are also covered by the tax-mapping program.

Medialdea says uncertainties ranging from the confiscation of unauthorized invoices, receipts and related business tools, as well as the collection of the tax deficiency totaling a 20-50 percent surcharge and penalties ranging from P5,000 to P50,000, are expected to be criminal offenses.

Buting ordered BIR field officials to adopt a uniform approach to the discharge of their tax-mapping functions to avoid conflicts in the course of their inspection of establishments. He reminded revenue personnel to "always be courteous."

MAKE YOUR PLACE WORLD CLASS !
Beautify your parks, streets & tourist spots. Minimize crimes! Have an identity & give comfort to your constituents by providing a well lighted surroundings. Decorative lights AVAILABLE NOW !
Titanium Import & Export Corp.
Tel/F 246 2282/241 9886 Fax 389 2412

7 Flags
LOCATION #1 ... LOCATION #2 ... 0918-7499290
1,990.00
3 YEARS WARRANTY
WE INSTALL TINTS FOR AUTO, BUILDINGS, BANKS, HOMES, MALLS, OFFICES, RESTAURANTS.
H.I.D. P11,900.00
ALARM P3,990.00
ISO 9001
ALARMS, BOOMS, H.I.D. KITS, WIPERS & MORE

TOSHIBA
how will you notebook next?
Toshiba recommends Windows® XP.
Don't hesitate. Don't be late. Cos' it's great!
0% Interest. 100% Value-for-money.
Powered by Intel® Centrino® Duo Mobile Technology. Toshiba Notebooks offer invincible performance value.
And at 0% interest on a 12-month installment plan, no wonder everyone's interested!
12 months 0% interest
Best Buy
Satellite L30-C330
Personal portability at great value.
P 3,582.50
Satellite L100-P442 ... P 3,332.50
Satellite M100-P301 ... P 6,988.17
Satellite A100-P540 ... P 7,499.17
EasyGuard
Check out our entire exciting range ... all at 0% interest!
beyond freedom
Talk-2-Toshiba
intel Centrino Duo

THE DAILY GOSPEL
Tuesday, September 12, 2006
23rd Week in Ordinary Time
The Holy Name of Mary
1st Readings: 1 Cor 8:1-13
Gospel: Luke 6:12-19
Jesus went out into the hills to pray; spending the whole night in prayer with God. When day came, he called his disciples to him and chose twelve of them, whom he called apostles: Simon, whom he named Peter, and his brother Andrew, James and John, Philip and Bartholomew, Matthew and Thomas, James son of Alphaeus and Simon called the Zealot, Jude son of James, and Judas Iscariot, who would be the traitor.
Coming down the hill with them, Jesus stood on a level place. Many of his disciples were there and a large crowd of people who had come from all parts of Judea and Jerusalem and from the coastal cities of Tyre and Sidon. They gathered to hear him and be healed of their diseases; likewise people troubled by evil spirits were healed. The entire crowd tried to touch him because of the power that went out from him and healed them all.
Commentary:
The entire gospel is centered around one small act. This is symbolism. Solitude for those moments alone that is Christ called to learn the one act when He asked of people how we become that the Church was just like everyone else both in doing will to each other and then acting as though we were not forgiven and reconciled in God in the Christ. We learn all these called to be the man and woman who dead and draw others to Christ by our lives and promises. Here we in proud become workers and instruments of other struggling to believe?
Claretian Publications, 4 Missouri St., EDSA, Kalayaan, Quezon City, P.O. Box 4, Diliman, 1101 Metro Manila, Phil. Tel. 426 6001 to 08, Fax 426 6002, e-mail: claret@cs.org, Website: http://www.claret.org/claret/ Claretian Publications, all rights reserved. www.cbcp.org/dailyreadings/default.php?mgt=true

HITACHI
Inspire the Next
GEAR MOTOR
GA SERIES
[for All Purpose Loads]
LOW NOISE & LONG OPERATION LIFE
ELECTRIC INDUCTION MOTOR
SINGLE / THREE PHASE
TOTALLY ENCLOSED FAN-COOLED TYPE
LIGHT WEIGHT
IP55 PROTECTION
HIGH-POWER MOTOR
Available at
leading hardware and industrial supply

AERIAL view of the massive mining pit of the Rapu-Rapu Processing Inc. in Rapu-Rapu, Albay, taken last May. The pandemonium mine is owned by Lafayette Mining Inc. of Australia.

Lafayette license expires; mine operations stopped

SYDNEY—AUSTRALIA'S LAFAYETTE Mining Ltd. said on Monday it was forced to again halt operations at its Rapu-Rapu mine in the Philippines after a temporary government operating license expired.

The mine in Rapu-Rapu town in Albay was closed for over after two cyanide spills but had recently resumed full operations by late last week under a 60-day trial run approved by the Philippine government.

Lafayette's shares fell 5.75 percent to 8 Australian cents, in a broader All Ords index down 0.6 percent.

Lafayette said results from mine operations over the trial run had demonstrated the mine's ore treatment plant was in compliance with regulatory standards, but its application for a further 60-day extension to operate the plant had not been considered by the Philippine Adjudication Board of the Philippines.

Plant operations were suspended late on Friday to ensure compliance with government requirements, the company said.

"Lafayette remains hopeful that the extension will be granted shortly," it said in a statement.

The country's first new mine developed by foreign interests in almost four decades resumed operations in late November after closing its first gold on July 26 last year, forcing Lafayette to conduct remedial environmental work on two permanent dosers.

The plant had reached 90 percent of rated capacity last week and was expected to treat 3,500 percent of capacity within a further two days, the company had told the Australian Stock Exchange on Sept. 5.

Lafayette estimates the Iolo ore reserves contains of $350 million a year from production of 10,000 tons of copper in concentrates, 14,000 tons of zinc, 30,000 ounces of gold and 500,000 ounces of silver. Reuters

homeSALE
Sept. 1 - Oct.1

IGLOO CHEST & COOLERS
MADE IN U.S.A.

all designs 50% off

Kool Mate

Seat Top Cooler

MaxCold Chest

only @ METRO

www.metroplaza.com

COLON • MANDAUE • AYALA • LEGAZPI • LUCENA • MARKET! MARKET!

SLIMMERS WORLD

BUY 1 MONTH GET 1 MONTH FREE!!! FOR CALLERS TODAY.

FREE on FITNESS PROGRAMMES. NO JOINING FEES! CREDIT CARD OPTIONS AT 0%

FREE! TRIAL PERSONAL TRAINING

ALL THE LATEST RESOURCES!

LOSE 16 INCHES IN ONLY 60 MINUTES AND ALL YOUR CELLULITE WITH BODY METRICS!
LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP. 0% INTEREST! NO MONTHLY DUES! NO JOINING FEES!
FOR CALLERS TODAY!

SAVE TODAY! BUY 15 TREATMENTS GET 5 FREE!!!

Diamond Dropped in Skin Resurfacing

Introducing ENDOSLIM

MESOTHERAPY

FITNESS & SKIN HOTLINE CALL US: 536-3333 MOBILE 091-SLIMMERS (75466377)

www.slimmersworld.com.ph inquire@slimmersworld.com.ph

MICROVAN
(02) 984-0278/79
MEGA SALE!
on Sept. 15, 2006 - STARTS AT 8:30A.M. SHARP

Senate orders arrest of PCGG execs

By TJ Burgonio

CCTV SECURITY SYSTEM
PHP 8,000.00
PROMO PACKAGE PHP 3,000
PHP 8,500.00
ACTEC COMMUNICATION TRADING
Tel. Nos.: 292-5337/446-3934

Grab The Biggest Promo of the Year For SHANGHAI and BEIJING
First Come First Serve Basis Only!!!
01 Oct. Departure only
4N Shanghai
3* HOTEL $99 4* HOTEL $159
4N Shanghai
3* HOTEL $139 4* HOTEL $199
2N Shanghai / 2N Beijing FULLBOARD
3* HOTEL $299 4* HOTEL $399

I used to check my hair in the mirror all the time, concerned about my receding hairline. Not anymore.
P15,000.00
NU/HART HAIR CLINICS
638-6000

Indictment sought for 9 in oil spill case

By Armand N. Nocum

WARNING TO THE PUBLIC!!!
BEWARE OF FAKE MAKOTO
MOTORCYCLE SPARE PARTS (BRAKE SHOE)
ORIGINAL
Tightly Bonded (Strong Adhesive)
Embedded Permanent Logo
Virgin Aluminum
Grinded Finish
High Quality Lining
Heavy Duty/ High Tensile Spring
FAKE
Low Quality Adhesive
Changeable Temporary Logo
Recycled Alloy
Low Tensile Spring
Rough Finish
Low-Quality Lining
MAKOTO Brake Shoe is registered with the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) Intellectual Property Office with registration No.: 4-2006-000-346, Dated 12-Jan-2005
FOR ANY INFORMATION REGARDING THE DISTRIBUTION AND SALE OF FAKE
Please report to:
MAGPUSAO DING VERGAS AND EVANGELISTA LAW OFFICE
3rd floor Kamuel Bldg. Law Office Banawe st. Quezon City
Please contact: Atty. Edward T. Ong
Tel.: (02) 4143992

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENSE
ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES
OFFICE OF THE PHILIPPINE NAVY BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE
Headquarters, Naval Logistics Center
Fort San Felipe, Cavite City
INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID
Procurement of Sixteen (16) units motorcycles, Three (3) units Asian Utility Vehicles (AUVs), 10 sets PRO-COMBO Tactical Packs and Janitorial Services for Headquarters, Philippine Navy
Office of the Philippine Navy Bids and Awards Committee, Headquarters, Naval Logistics Center Fort San Felipe, Cavite City
Contact Person: LCDR JOSELO A TOBALLA PN

Siargao National Surfing Cup
September 14 - 18, 2006
Cloud 9, General Luna
Siargao Island, Philippines

DOH: No dengue epidemic except in parts of Rizal

By Tina G. Santos

DESPITE THOUSANDS OF PATIENTS NOW stricken with the dreaded mosquito-borne disease dengue, the Department of Health assured that there is "no epidemic," except in parts of Rizal province.

The Department of Health (DOH) said the number of individuals with dengue cases recorded from January to August this year was to have 42 percent less than the 23,144+ cases reported for the same period last year. So far, 15,468 cases have been reported this year, with some 167 deaths, said Dr. Lyndon Lorenzo, DOH national dengue program manager.

The region with the highest number of cases are Metro Manila with 4,222, Central Luzon with 1,898, Central Visayas with 1,752 and Caraga Administrative Region with 922.

The province of Rizal has the highest number of registered cases, 726, with the number rapidly increasing in the last three weeks, according to Rizal provincial health officer Dr. Armando Victoria.

He said they were also surprised by the sudden increase, adding that the heavy rains over the past few weeks could be a factor.

He said at least 30 persons in Rizal have died of dengue fever. Other reports put the toll at 41. Twelve of the deaths occurred during the first seven months of the year. Over 18 other dengue deaths were registered since Aug. 9.

The highest number of cases in the province (151 as of August) is mainly populated Cainta City.

Aside from Cainta, three of Rizal's 13 towns have declared a state of calamity because of dengue: San Mateo, Morong and Teresa.

From January, 122 dengue cases and seven deaths were reported in San Mateo; 79 cases and three deaths in Morong; 20 cases and four deaths in Teresa.

Only the town of Pililla has not reported a single dengue case.

"Cases are expected to increase with the heavy rains, so people have to be vigilant," Lorenzo said. He added that the threat of dengue would always be there because "we are a tropical country that is conducive for mosquitoes to breed."

Although the number of cases this year is still low, we cannot let down our guard because there are still four remaining months in the year, Lorenzo said. In the meantime, "It may surge anytime; an outbreak is still possible."

He said that while the situation is "under control" at this point, it is susceptible to destructive change any time.

Lorenzo said the dengue virus has four serotypes, and there is no vaccine yet for its prevention. One has to be infected by all four types to be immune.

This dangerous viral disease is transmitted by the Aedes Aegypti mosquito, which usually rest and breed in stagnant water, moss areas and dry mud—a common scene in many communities around the country.

The virus attacks the blood stream, resulting in the rupture of capillaries, bleeding, pain and even death. And what most people do not know is that when you acquire it, there is still a big chance of getting it again, which is now may be worse than what you had previously, the health official explained.

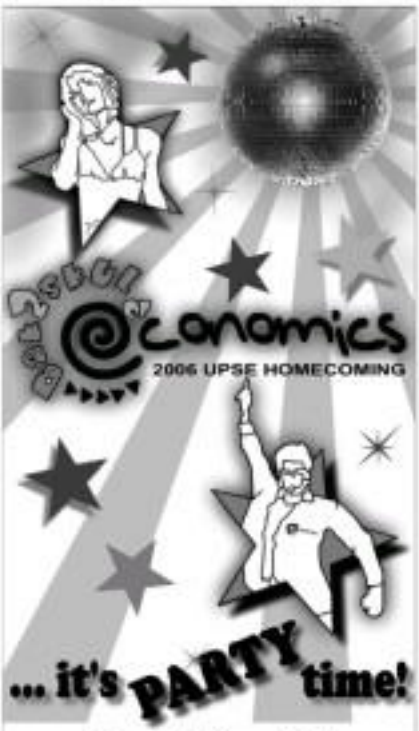
DOH statistics show that 52 percent of those affected are male, with 65 percent of the total cases belonging to the 5 to 19-year old age group.

Important facts on how you can prevent dengue

CLEANLINESS IN OUR HOMES AND COMmunities plays a big role in preventing the breeding and spread of the deadly dengue-carrying mosquito.

Here are other important facts everyone should know about dengue and how to avoid it:

- The mosquitoes that transmit dengue live among humans and breed in places where there is stagnant water—in old tires, used oil drums, flower pots, and uncovered water containers inside the house.
- The best way to prevent the spread of the disease is to eliminate mosquito breeding places by removing all water containers, throwing away trash that collect rainwater, and cleaning roof gutters and canals regularly.
- Dengue is spread by the bite of a mosquito species called Aedes Aegypti. The mosquito transmits the disease by biting an infected person and then biting someone else.
- The risk of getting dengue is highest during the day because mosquitoes like during daytime. They are most active during early morning (from 6 a.m. to 11 a.m.) and late afternoon (from 4 p.m. to dusk).
- Among the symptoms of dengue are high fever, skin rash, bone and muscle pain, headaches, nausea and vomiting.
- Patients who show signs of nervousness, cold extremities, rapid weak pulse, and hypotension should be hospitalized and treated immediately.
- Persons with dengue fever should rest and drink plenty of fluids. They should consult a doctor immediately for prompt treatment.
- Disinfectants of dengue carriers as fumigation during the rainy season because dengue-carrying mosquitoes breed during those times when humidity is high. (Tina G. Santos)



House grabs 2 AFP spies taking probe footage

minded the military top brass to "respect civilian supremacy."

Other committee members also determined the AFP for analyzing quite unusual of its officials in the inquiry.

"The [Antonio] Abanes due high military officials are getting to be more arrogant to subverting civilian supremacy by enabling a House probe on extrajudicial killings, on the one hand, and sending narrators against, on the other, its steps on the investigations," said Bayan Muna Rep. Joel Villanueva.

Suspicious behavior

The military agents had been taking pictures and videos of the proceedings for half an hour when members of the House Legislative Security Bureau caught on to what they were doing.

When he signed the attendance log before the start of the hearing, Serrano identified himself as a member of the AFP's CIG.

Carrying a video camera, he began filming footage of the proceedings, which started at 10 a.m.

Members of the House security force promptly notified Abante about the agents' suspicious behavior.

Pictures deleted

Abante ordered them to hold the lens.

"I almost wanted them arrested. I told security to detain them," Abante told the business.

Calayeta was ushered out of the hearing for failing to answer questions about his media affiliation, lawmakers said.

Scrolling for he was a member of the media, Calayeta freely took pictures of the relatives of the victims who had been called by the committee to testify.

Just obeying orders

Calayeta was ordered to delete all the pictures in his camera's memory card.

Prior to the spot, Serrano told the congressmen during a break in the hearing that he was merely carrying out orders from his "commanding officers" to tape the entire proceedings.

Abanes later called Abante and explained that the two agents had been sent to document the proceedings.

"They were not sent to spy," Abante quoted Valentino as saying.

AFP spokesperson Lt. Col. Bartolome Bacarro said the two agents were working for the CIG as a cameraman and a photographer.

One more chance

For the second time, Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana invited Maj. Gen. Jovito Palparan to the hearings. President-Ind. Adviser Jesus Dureza and other ranking officials of the AFP and the Department of the Interior and Local Government also did not show up.

Palparan is wanted in connection with the enforced disappearance of Sherlyn Cadapan and Karen Empeno, who were abducted in Hagonoy, Bulacan, in June 2006.

Cadapan, Empeno and Manuel Merino were allegedly tortured at a military camp in Hagonoy before they were transferred to Arayat, Pampanga, where they were held captive for seven months.

Merino was released in January 2007, while Cadapan and Empeno were found in Laguna in April 2007.

Palparan has been charged with kidnapping and serious illegal detention with torture before the Regional Trial Court in Malolos City, Bulacan.

Palparan has also been charged with the murder of University of the Philippines student Karen Empeno and her boyfriend, Manuel Merino, before the Regional Trial Court in Tarlac City.

Palparan has been at large since the Supreme Court issued a warrant for his arrest in December 2011.

Palparan's camp has been trying to delay the proceedings in the Malolos court, saying the former general is not getting a fair trial.

Palparan's camp has also

One Water, One Life.

The protection of our precious water resources may seem like a gargantuan task.

But if we move with One Mind, taking it One Step at a time, we can ensure that the next generation will have clean, potable water.

The La Mesa Watershed, the country's third largest water reservoir and the source of drinking water of 12 million Metro Manila residents is in danger of contamination.

And it only takes One Drop.

But with your support, we can fight the threat of water contamination to ensure that individuals and organizations have echoed the need to protect our precious water sources.

"We do not oppose the MWSS Housing project. We oppose its location. The Reservoir is our only hope. Join our signature campaign and let's put a stop to what may now be called destruction of life."

- Gaudencio Cardinal Rosales, D.D., Archbishop of Manila
- Deogenes Miguel, D.D., Bishop of Caloocan
- Honesto Ongtioco, D.D., Bishop of Cubao
- Antonio Tobias, D.D, Bishop of Novaliches
- Jose Alemany, D.D, Bishop of Pandacan
- Francisco San Diego, D.D, Bishop of Pasig

"The interests of the 7,000 MAWASA employees/beneficiaries should not be above the welfare of the 12 million population in Metro Manila who will be affected by the contaminated water. I urge Congress to enact a law that will declare the La Mesa Dam a protected area."

- Atty. Enrico "Recom" Echivarri, City Mayor, Caloocan City

"The La Mesa Watershed is not only Metro Manila's primary source of water, it is also the home of some hundreds of birds hovering around the forest area. As such, we are in one with Bantay Kalikasan's initiative to protect the La Mesa."

- Michael C. Lu, President, The Wild Bird Club of the Philippines

"We stand squarely in support of Bantay Kalikasan's position on the housing project at the Lam Mesa Watershed."

- Alan T. Ortiz, Ph.D., President & CEO, National Transmission Corporation

"The Quezon City Tourism Council supports Bantay Kalikasan's efforts to protect the La Mesa Watershed. As a vital link to the water requirement of 12 million Metro Manila residents, the watershed should be protected from human

- Herminia Z. Lim, Chairperson, Quezon City Tourism Council

"Promote safe drinking water for our kids...for their future."

- Mary Jane Fresnoza, Zero Waste Recycling Movement of the Philippines, Inc.

"Pagbalungan noting mataguinan ang kanapatan sa maayos na pabahay at kanapatan sa malinis na tubig. Ang buhay ng tao ay nakasalalay sa inang

- Earth Day Network

"We support the MWSS Workers' right to housing for as long as it does not impinge on the rights of others. Let us protect the integrity of Metro Manila's water supply by declaring the La Mesa Dam Watershed a protected area."

- Vidal Bernas, Chair, Environmental Committee, Sampaloc International of the Phils.

"We cannot sacrifice 15 million Filipinos' healthy drinking water for the capricious needs of a few influential big organizations."

- Dr. Alfredo Palileo, Chairman of Ecology Committee, Philippine Medical Association

"YES to MWSS Rights, but NO to millions of Filipinos to suffer from contamination."

- Rachel T. Balolong, Youth for Environment in Schools Organization
  YES O-M Marcos HS Sta. Ana Manila

"The Municipality of Rodriguez supports the ABS-CBN's "Our Water, Our Life" project and opposes the proposed housing project within the Reservoir."

- Engr. Pedro S. Cuenca, Municipal Mayor, Rodriguez, Rizal

"The Department of Health upholds the health of the people being of paramount importance. With the proposed 59-hectare housing project, the Department of Health strongly believes that this will significantly affect the

- Efralyn P. Nieto MD, MPH, MHA, CESO III, Undersecretary of Health,
  Department of Health

"The Board of Trustees of the Philippine Business Environment, on behalf of its members, unanimously supports the efforts of the Save the La Mesa Watershed Coalition to ask government to declare the La Mesa Watershed a Protected Area. PBE is keeping its commitment to balance development and protection of

- Edgar O. Chua, PBE Chairman
- Leonardo B. Papasinsinia, PBE President

"The fight to declare the La Mesa Watershed a Protected Area should never be about political allegiances and vested interests. We are certain that this fight will be a first of so many others, a fight for what is right and what is just. As

- Michael Francis Arabelo Lopez, Office of the President of the Phils.
  National Youth Commission

"In the interest of assuring clean water to sustain life for the 12 million residents of Metro Manila, we, the BRIGADANG BERDE and the CARE Foundation Incorporated, its members and volunteers, do hereby declare our

- Brigadang Berde Care Foundation, Inc.

"The National Economic and Development Authority shares with Bantay Kalikasan's position in opposing the proposed housing project in the La Mesa

- Romulo L. Neri, Secretary for Socio-Economic Planning, National
  Economic & Dev't Authority

"The proposed housing project in the La Mesa Reservation Area endangers the integrity of Metro Manila's water supply. With this, our coalition of homeowners' associations groups namely: the Federation of Residents' Associations, Inc. (FORA), Alliance of Quezon City Homeowners' Associations, Inc. (AQCHAI), Federation of Village Associations (FOVA), Coalition of Homeowners' Associations (COHA), Federation of Los Pinas Village Associations (FOLPVA), Federation of Congressional Avenue Lot Owners and Subdivisions (FOCALS), Antipolo Federation of Homeowners' Associations (A-Homes), and the Federation of Homeowners' Associations in Barangay Don Bosco support the various environmental groups' efforts to declare the La Mesa Watershed as a protected area."

- Sylvia Lopez Alejandro, President, FORA
- Siegfredo A. Velasco, Chairman, External Affairs, FOVA
- Bonifacio C. Ozaa, President, FOLPVA
- Florita L. Mendoza, President, AQCHAI
- Marcelo R. Deuril, Vice Chairman, COHA
- Manuel G. Portal, President, FOCALS
- Fermoso Alejandro, President, Federation of Homeowners
  Associations of Barangay Don Bosco
- Rogelio Jalvuerbro, President, A-Homes

Make your voice heard.
Help us convince the government to declare the La Mesa Watershed a Protected Area.

Sign the form below and fax to Bantay Kalikasan 411-1310 or 410-9670 or drop it off at any David Salon, JBC or LBC outlets nationwide or at any Bayad Center branch in Metro Manila.

You may also sign the online petition at www.lamesaecopark.com or text LPE (space) Name (comma) Address to 2366 (Globe/Sun) Or 231 (Smart/Talk 'n Text/Addict Mobile).

Join our petition to declare La Mesa Watershed a Protected Area by signing below. Ask your family and friends to sign, too.

Name/Address/Contact No.

Name/Address/Contact No.

'Bata' Reyes pockets P25-M pool prize

From page A1

gained only by the games of world boxing champion Manny Pacquiao.

Why it the money or the title that was most important, Reyes was asked during the awarding ceremony.

"Both the money and the title. They're expecting new wins in our country," was Reyes' reply.

The 2PT website account said Reyes, who was featured into the billiards Century of Sentosa Hall of fame in 2003, talked about the break as posing plenty of challenge to both players during the title match.

"I missed one for, it balls, I think, but they were both correct decisions. It made me hold nervous when I was shooting that, I was shaking a little. That's why I missed the eights," he said.

Neither of the finalists pocketed a ball on the break in the first four frames. Morris snapped the [illegible] with a run-out on the fifth to lead, 4-3.

But luck was on the side of the Filipino as Morris scratched on the break three times—the last when Reyes was had the ball.

Morris, who won the US Open in 1999 as the topmost of Europe, settled for the runner-up prize of $150,000 and thanked the organizers for holding "a great event."

"Everything was up of the line, from the manicure to the food to the venue, everything was top class, and it's really happy that I've also a hope for this much money in this event," the Australia-born Morris said.

The victory also underscored Reyes' unsunny knack for dominating inaugural tournaments.

Reyes won the World 9-Ball Pool Championship when it was finally handled by Matchroom Sports and aired internationally in 1996. He ruled the first staging of the International Billiards Championship in Japan where he pocketed $120,000, and topped the first tournament of the 2PT dubbed "King of the Hill" to win $200,000 last year.

Reyes, who also successfully represented the country to the Asian Games and the Southeast Asian Games, emerged overall champion of the first year of the ESPN Asian-9-ball Tour three years ago.

The win was a big improvement over the runner-up finish of Marlon Manalo to the Ninth American Open, the first of six tournaments in the 2PT schedule this year.

Dennis Orcollo, one of 11 Filipinos in the starting field who placed third to Reyes in the South America Open, wound up fifth this time to earn $65,000.

Mika Immonen of Finland finished third, which also earned $92,000. Oliver Ortmann of Germany was fourth for $80,000, and Americans Corey Deuel brought up the rear of the Final 8 to bag $50,000. With a report from Marlon Bernardino, Correspondent

'We expected Bata to win'

MARALACAN, PAMPANGA—When Glen "Bata" Reyes topped the International Pool Tour 2005 World Open 9-Ball championship and bagged the whopping grand prize of $500,000 (P25 million) on Monday his kababata (childhood friend), Ricardo "Lucky" Bergonia, said he was not surprised at all.

"Bata ya mako, sabi na bulang mimigal ng laban ya ng mamilyon (Bata he left [for Sweatia], he said he on, joyed the good luck of winning to big stakes games)," Bergonia, 49, told the Inquirer by telephone.

In that phone conversation hours after Bata humbled American Rodney Morris, Bergonia said his friend was in a happy mood and was set to go home on Tuesday.

"He said he would come when he gets a $1-million prize in the next game," he added.

Bergonia, also a billiards player in Barangay Cut here, said Reyes promised to give him a "bahin," as he always did when he won games.

How much or what that would be was a "secret," he said.

But to give a hint of how generous Reyes was, Bergonia said the Filipino billiards ace had a house built for his brother Fernan at the Sitio-upas sourdsurant here. The Reyeses were originally from Barangay Cabalantian in Bacolor.

Learning of Reyes' new title, Bilabilan Mayor Elenita Morales said the council would honor Reyes, an adopted son of the town, through a resolution.

The Olongapo Mayor's younger people should emulate," Morales said. Rosette Ordas, Inquirer Central Luzon

Solons push extradition of Bolante

From page A1

cause he fears for his life in the hands of Filipino communist insurgents.

The 53-year-old Bolante was arrested on his arrival in Los Angeles on July 7 after his visa was cancelled. US immigration authorities moved against him after the Philippine Senate cited him in contempt for ignoring summonses to appear at a public hearing on the fertilizer scam and issued a warrant for his arrest.

Magsaysay said the action by the US Immigration and Naturalization Service amounted to a slap on Philippine authorities who made no attempt to prevent Bolante's flight and held him responsible for the misuse of the fertilizer funds.

"It seems that way because their [extradition] believers they [dual citizenship] are afraid of a high official. That's why our government cannot do anything and that is a shame. They do not have the dignity to give justice to our own people," he said.

Magsaysay chairs the Senate agriculture committee which investigated the alleged use of the fertilizer funds to finance his daughter's victory in the 2004 balloting.

The committee tagged Bolante as the chief architect of the scam and cited him in contempt for repeatedly snubbing the investigation, prompting then Senate President Franklin Drilon to issue a warrant for his arrest.

'Death is coming out'

Magsaysay had sent letters to the US Justice Department and the FBI more department, furnishing them copies of the committee report and urging them locate the elusive Bolante.

"This is a very good development because the truth is coming out [that Bolante has been deliberately ducking the Senate. We are happy about this development that the US Immigration has ... requested the decision of the Philippine Senate," said Senate Minority Leader Aquilino Pi mentel Jr.

"We want him to be sent home," Pimentel said.

"It seems that the chances are getting stronger that he will be denied asylum and for that matter deported," Magsaysay said. "We want him back because we want to get to the bottom of this mystery—the fertilizer and agriculture funds that were misused."

"Maybe, after all the confusion and all the technicalities, we're looking at somebody not only saying he hates the Filipinos because this is an issue that impacts on the ordinary Filipinos—the farmers, fishermen, and the most impoverished sectors," he said.

No safe haven

Magsaysay said the US government showed that it was serious about implementing its policy of denying safe haven to those who steal public funds.

He said he also planned to talk, by his counterpart in the US Senate and the oversight committee monitoring the use of Public Law No. 480 agriculture funds from the United States.

"My hope and I am putting together a draft letter to my counterparts in the US Senate and those overseeing funds that come to the United States on the PL-480 so that they would be aware of the issue about Bolante because they have a very important role in American responses also funding some socioeconomic, agriculture projects here and they want to know how effective these are being used to this is another issue to get Bolante)," Magsaysay said.

Foot-dragging?

Eventually, Magsaysay said the task of bringing Bolante before the bar of justice lies with the OF. fice of the Ombudsman, which is supposed to be "leading the pursuit prosecution" of Mr. Arroyo's husband, Jose Miguel "Mike" Arroyo.

"But beyond that Ombudsman, we want the Ombudsman to get off its butt and start doing what it is supposed to do," Magsaysay said.

He said he spoke to Ombudsman Merceditas Gutierrez last month about the importance of her agency going after Bolante.

"I told her, 'Please, expectation and that of the Ombudsman as an institution of justice are not that waiting so if you do not act fast and solve this problem and file a case against such people as Bolante [your credibility] will be eroded," Magsaysay said.

US Marine details sex act

From page A1

stand as the first witness for the defense yesterday and denied doing anything against Nicole's will on Nov. 1, 2003, the night of the alleged rape—from the position she was in to the contamination of the crime scene.

"When I got too aroused moving, we started kissing kinda passionately ... Then she kinda had her hands on my back and she started leaning in the window and started pulling me towards [her]. ... I kinda noticed jokingly, 'Are you trying to have a willing sex?' and she said yes, and I was kinda surprised for a second," Smith told the court yesterday.

Smith said the complainant even helped him put on a condom. He said the court that Nicole told him to "take it easy" because it was her first time.

"I was told I was being accused of rape. I found it odd when that was coming from and I was told that it was the girl I had sex with the other night," Smith said.

The 22-year-old complainant had testified that Smith forced himself on her while she lay dead drunk in the back seat of the rented around Subic Bay Freeport around 11:30 to 3 a.m.

She further alleged that the other accused, Staff Sgt. Chad Carpenter and Lance Corporals Keith Silkwood and Dominic Daplanits, cheered Smith on during the alleged rape.

Not drunk

Smith, however, had a different story and, under direct examination by lawyer Rivera Mesa, depicted Nicole as being fully cognizant from the time they met at Subic's Neptune Club until they parted ways at the pier.

Not once during his bouncing encounter did Smith remember Nicole was drunk as she had claimed.

He said he considered himself an "ace in he always did. He could not remember though how Nicole maneuvered herself on "the seats in the back of the [car]."

The witness sat quietly while Smith spoke.

After a three-week break, the trial resumed yesterday at the calls of Makati Regional Trial Court Branch 139 Judge Benjamin Pozon.

Different story

Smith said that before leaving Nicole, he told her to return the next day to the bar where they had met if she wanted to spend more time with him.

The two separated when, before dawn on Nov. 2, agent Roy Pinpoint of the Naval Criminal Investigation Service (NCIS) summoned him about his involvement in an alleged rape on the night he and Nicole had sex.

"I was told [I was being accused of rape. I found it odd when that was coming from and I was told that it was the girl I had sex with the other night," Smith said.

The 22-year-old complainant had testified that Smith forced himself on her while she lay dead drunk in the back seat of the rented around Subic Bay Freeport around 11:30 to Nov. 3 last year.

She further alleged that the other accused, Staff Sgt. Chad Carpenter and Lance Corporals Keith Silkwood and Dominic Daplanits, cheered Smith on during the alleged rape.

Not drunk

Smith, however, had a different story and, under direct examination by lawyer Rivera Mesa, depicted Nicole as being fully cognizant from the time they met at Subic's Neptune Club until they parted ways at the pier.

Not once during his bouncing encounter did Smith remember Nicole was drunk as she had claimed.

He said he considered himself an "ace in he always did. He could not remember though how Nicole maneuvered herself on "the seats in the back of the [car]."

The witness sat quietly while Smith spoke.

After a three-week break, the trial resumed yesterday at the calls of Makati Regional Trial Court Branch 139 Judge Benjamin Pozon.

Different story

Smith said that before leaving Nicole, he told her to return the next day to the bar where they had met if she wanted to spend more time with him.

The two separated when, before dawn on Nov. 2, agent Roy Pinpoint of the Naval Criminal Investigation Service (NCIS) summoned him about his involvement in an alleged rape on the night he

Giggling, kissing

"He [who just flirted] knew and she asked if she could like me. I said yes, then we kissed each other ... After we were done, we just playfully giggled because there were many people around and we were there kissing," Smith said.

Between 11:30 and 11:38 p.m., Smith said Carpenter arrived and began rounding up the Marines at the bar so they could leave after Ruta finished dancing. Carpenter told Smith that Nicole had left.

"I was told I was being accused of rape. I found it odd when that was coming from and I was told that it was the girl I had sex with the other night," Smith said.

The 22-year-old complainant had testified that Smith forced himself on her while she lay dead drunk in the back seat of the rented around Subic Bay Freeport around 11:30 to Nov. 3 last year.

She further alleged that the other accused, Staff Sgt. Chad Carpenter and Lance Corporals Keith Silkwood and Dominic Daplanits, cheered Smith on during the alleged rape.

Not drunk

Smith, however, had a different story and, under direct examination by lawyer Rivera Mesa, depicted Nicole as being fully cognizant from the time they met at Subic's Neptune Club until they parted ways at the pier.

Not once during his bouncing encounter did Smith remember Nicole was drunk as she had claimed.

He said he considered himself an "ace in he always did. He could not remember though how Nicole maneuvered herself on "the seats in the back of the [car]."

The witness sat quietly while Smith spoke.

After a three-week break, the trial resumed yesterday at the calls of Makati Regional Trial Court Branch 139 Judge Benjamin Pozon.

Different story

Smith said that before leaving Nicole, he told her to return the next day to the bar where they had met if she wanted to spend more time with him.

The two separated when, before dawn on Nov. 2, agent Roy Pinpoint of the Naval Criminal Investigation Service (NCIS) summoned him about his involvement in an alleged rape on the night he

Giggling, kissing

"He [who just flirted] knew and she asked if she could like me. I said yes, then we kissed each other ... After we were done, we just playfully giggled because there were many people around and we were there kissing," Smith said.

Between 11:30 and 11:38 p.m., Smith said Carpenter arrived and began rounding up the Marines at the bar so they could leave after Ruta finished dancing. Carpenter told Smith that Nicole had left.

"I was told I was being accused of rape. I found it odd when that was coming from and I was told that it was the girl I had sex with the other night," Smith said.

The 22-year-old complainant had testified that Smith forced himself on her while she lay dead drunk in the back seat of the rented around Subic Bay Freeport around 11:30 to Nov. 3 last year.

She further alleged that the other accused, Staff Sgt. Chad Carpenter and Lance Corporals Keith Silkwood and Dominic Daplanits, cheered Smith on during the alleged rape.

Not drunk

Smith, however, had a different story and, under direct examination by lawyer Rivera Mesa, depicted Nicole as being fully cognizant from the time they met at Subic's Neptune Club until they parted ways at the pier.

Not once during his bouncing encounter did Smith remember Nicole was drunk as she had claimed.

He said he considered himself an "ace in he always did. He could not remember though how Nicole maneuvered herself on "the seats in the back of the [car]."

The witness sat quietly while Smith spoke.

After a three-week break, the trial resumed yesterday at the calls of Makati Regional Trial Court Branch 139 Judge Benjamin Pozon.

Different story

Smith said that before leaving Nicole, he told her to return the next day to the bar where they had met if she wanted to spend more time with him.

The two separated when, before dawn on Nov. 2, agent Roy Pinpoint of the Naval Criminal Investigation Service (NCIS) summoned him about his involvement in an alleged rape on the night he

GMA opens door to UN, EU rights probers

From page A1

Philippines, Ms. Arroyo says. Bring to Beneath her last night to meet with European leaders and convince them she had nothing to hide.

National Security Adviser Norberto Gonzalez, a member of the presidential delegation, said the government would not only invite a delegation from Europe to make an independent study on the extrajudicial killings but would also inform European leaders that the same institution had been extended to the leftwing Bayan Muna Representative Satur Ocampo.

Before his departure from Helsinki for Brussels, Ms Arroyo spoke at the 6th Asia-Europe Meeting (Asem) here and pushed for an interfaith dialogue as an alternative to military might and money in addressing the "intractable" problem of wiping out the global terrorist network.

Ending the terror

Ms Arroyo made no reference to her speech to the Communist Party of the Philippines or the New People's Army, which the United States has tagged as a terrorist organization belonging to a chain that also includes the Abu Sayyaf.

"On the fifth anniversary of 9/11, the world has become painfully aware that the solutions to terror cannot be found exclusively in military might or a bigger treasury," she said, referring to the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks against the United States.

"Thus, governments and individuals have turned to interfaith and intercultural initiatives designed to foster mutual respect, tolerance and friendship between peoples, nations and religions," Ms Arroyo said.

Gonzalez said the 10th general of the European Union delegation were likely to carry out their reviews simultaneously.

"We're looking at having a sort of monitoring team similar to the one we have in the peace process," he said.

Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye said the Arroyo administration hoped the planned reviews "would help the world distinguish propaganda from the facts behind all the aspect of the country's internal fighting."

Bunye said the administration was confident of convincing European leaders that it "has nothing to do with the spate of killings, impress upon them that we do not condone these dastardly acts, and prove our determined efforts to bring justice to the victims and avail a stop to all forms of politically motivated violence."

Spain, Finland and others

Gonzalez said both Spain and Finland had expressed strong interest in joining the human rights review team.

"Both Spain and Finland want to send civil society groups for the process. There will be other countries that will join them," he said.

Gonzalez said the Arroyo administration was not "exactly cautioning the report of Amnesty International in the way that we are saying it is false."

What the Arroyo administration wants to do is show that the killings of leftist and media personalities were being used to propagandize materials by leftist groups.

In Brussels, Ms Arroyo and her delegation will meet with European Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso and European Parliament President Josef Borrell, both based in Belgium.

During her two-day stay in Brussels, she is scheduled to meet with Belgian Prime Minister Guy Verhofstadt as well as officials of Belgium's House of Representatives and Senate.

Government Warning:
Cigarette smoking is dangerous to your health

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
Vol. 23 No. 279
OPINION

Perverse

EDITORIAL

MALACAÑANG HAS SAID THAT IT WAS STILL PLANNING to place Maj. Gen. Jovito Palparan, who was scheduled to retire yesterday, it would be better if Malacañang would not go through with its previously announced plan to appoint Palparan deputy for counter-insurgency operations in the National Security Council.

To appoint Palparan to the new security post would be the height of insensitivity on the part of the Arroyo administration to the sentiments of the people in the areas where the general is alleged to have ordered the killing of more than 300 unarmed activists and militants. The appointment would be a perverse answer to the concerns raised by European leaders over the extrajudicial killings and the violation of human rights by the general who has been called "Butcher" (Exterminator) by the activists.

Palparan has left a trail of blood, violation of human rights and repression everywhere he has been assigned. His list of human rights violations is said to have started in 1989 when he was named commander of the 204th Infantry Battalion in Central Luzon. The militants' report on his human rights record said that he was responsible for 71 "salvagings" (summary executions), five massacres, one aerial attack, two grenade bombings, five cases of illegal arrest and detention and 48 disappearances.

He was assigned to Masbate as head of the 204th Brigade and there he got the moniker "Berdugo ng Masbate" (Butcher of Masbate). In the three years (2001-2003) that he was assigned there, 80 extrajudicial killings and 328 human rights violations were committed, militants said.

He was later assigned to Samar as commander of the 8th Infantry Division, and again he was called the "Executioner of Samar." In May 2005, during a Commission on Appointments hearing on Palparan's promotion to major general, Alex Garcia Lagunzad, secretary general of the human rights group Karapatan-Timog-Silangan Bisayas, said that 139 cases of killings, frustrated killings, disappearances, torture, harassment, physical assaults and arbitrary arrest and detention of human rights advocates and civilians were recorded during Palparan's stint in Eastern Visayas.

Activists also accused Palparan of putting Samar under de facto military rule, with army officers summoning elected civilian officials to military camps and soldiers raiding houses in the dead of night.

In August last year, he was assigned to head the 7th Infantry Division based in Fort Magsaysay, Nueva Ecija. Within a month, 13 leaders and members of the party-list organizations Bayan Muna and its affiliate organizations in Central Luzon were reported killed. Recently, Palparan and his men were accused of planting Nueva Ecija leader de facto military rule, requiring villagers to produce residence certificates to prove their residency.

Palparan doesn't even think what he's doing is wrong. He even laughs about it. In June last year, he said the deaths of civilians and local officials brought about by the military's anti-insurgency campaign in Samar were "small sacrifices." (Small sacrifices, indeed! He must value human life very lightly.) In October that year, when he was asked to respond to accusations that he was the mastermind behind the murders of 19 militants in Central Luzon, he said: "I'm not angry. I can smile and laugh about it."

In July 2006, Palparan scoffed at accusations that he had ordered the killings of activists in Central Luzon. "[The killings] are being attributed to me, but I did not kill them. I just inspired [the triggermen]," he said, chuckling. Last August, speaking about the anti-insurgency campaign in Central Luzon, Palparan said, "Sorry to say, lang (only) may madamay na abiduan (Too bad if civilians are caught in the crossfire)."

Palparan and his ilk fail or refuse to distinguish between combatants and noncombatants. In the anti-insurgency campaign, New People's Army rebels are armed combatants, and they are legitimate targets for the military. But the militants and activists are unarmed noncombatants, and under municipal and international law, they are not legitimate targets of killing by the military. But apparently, Palparan thinks otherwise.

Unless it wants the wave of extrajudicial killings to continue and escalate and to reap more extensive global condemnation, Malacañang would do well to rethink its plan to appoint Palparan to the new security post.

Publisher ISAGANI YAMBOT
Editor in Chief/CEO ARMAND FABELLA-PRETKOSKI
Managing Editor JOSE MA. D. NOLASCO
Associate Editor ROLANDO O. OLAVARIA
Associate Editor for Marketing ROSARIO M. SANTIAGO-ANG
News Editor ANTONIO T. ENRIQUEZ JR. • Chief News Desk Editor MARIA L. PADERES
Opinion Editor JOSEL V. ALUNAN
Assistant Editor FRANCISCO S. AGARAO JR.
Senior Desk Editor JANE F. SCHNEIDER D.D.
Editor at Large/Senior Consultant AMADOR HOYOKO
Chief Photographer ERNIE G. SARMIENTO
Art & Design Director LORETO A. VILLANUEVA

Board of Chairman MARIA G. POSTIGO
President ALEXANDRA POSTIGO-ROMUALDEZ
Executive Vice President/Chief Operating Officer GRACE G. NUBLA
Senior Vice President for Sales and Marketing RENATO G. MANGAHAS
Vice President for Advertising ALAN B. ISLAETA
Vice President for Finance ELSIE ERMITA E. YAP

Assistant Publisher for Finance LORNA KALAW TAN

All rights reserved. No part may be reproduced by any means or in any form without permission from the publisher. Unauthorized use of any material in this publication violates applicable laws and is strictly prohibited.

The bawdy house?

VIEWPOINT

Jean L. Mercado

"THE VOICE IS THAT OF JACOB, BUT THE hands are those of Esau."

That identity theft dates back to Genesis. As cob conned his blind father by wrapping his smooth hands in kidskin, so they'd resemble those of his twin brother Esau. Through fraud, he received a coveted blessing.

Did we see a similar matter unfold before 1,000 councilors hauled over the weekend to Cebu City, at taxpayer's expense, for the "3rd Senate Councilor Recognition" rites?

Why "many JOY billion (1,750 billion to be elected," Presidential Chief of Staff Michael Defensor told assembled councilors. "We have an election in 2007, you could put to your perspective on what path this country should take ... Instead, we should work for a system that is stable ... into a parliamentary system."

Cabinet secretaries are sitter egos of the president. So, Jacob's voice and Esau's hand are one in this first cursory examination of the assertions "No-ET" proposal.

"No-ET" would dissolve/reduce 42.2 million voters. "What will you give me in exchange?" Judas asked as history's shoddiest quid pro quo. In this case, Jacob asked Esau, replied to the transitory Temporary Provisions (Article XVI, Section 7 would stretch the terms of senators, congressmen, mayors, governors to coincide—the first—to 2010.

Make no mistake. As some officeholders, as long as being political into anything else 2007 ballot. In exchange, they get three more years without the hassle of having voters, while Pres. dent Macapagal-Arroyo expands her powers. It'd be like unleashing hungry monkeys in a sugar mill of bananas, as the old Thai proverb put it.

This is sophisticated pimping for mass protection. Never before in our checkered history have so many been "proportioned" for so little by so few.

"Power is the ultimate aphrodisiac," former US Secretary of State Henry Kissinger once said. That, of course, before he stepped "No-ET" to the gut desire of many to cling to power, passion and pelf.

JOVITO PALPARAN, SAYS THE MIS, IS A "dead man walking." That would be to especially after yesterday the birthday of Ferdinand Marcos, the banshee-style lacing of the World Trade Center five years ago, and the day of Pullgrand retirement. The NPA declared its gol, and Palparan's "crimes against the people" do not require the memory of elephants.

Palparan himself is unfazed. He by and—rightly—that he would be thrown a theme in the form of another government position as he traveled from a gubernatorial to whose name he has forgotten. The question then would be keep him safe and in power. He has shrugged off the threat saying—strongly—that the people would protect him.

What can I say? They can play their macho games of military tactics, but the civilians is going to get any sympathy from the public.

The MNIS knew pub reaction in Palparan merely shows why governments targeted in members in the first place. While it first they have a way of alienating the public with their own monstrous ways, couched in spare jargon and accompanied by sanctimonious language. Then threat to Palparan, passed off as a revolutionary way of fighting wrongs, in fact merely reminds the public of the revolutionary way they transacted their own centuries when they suspected of being spies (the "killing fields") and the seven hundred years they endured their own brand of tyranny. Palparan and his men should be kept from their ranks and whom they persuaded to have become counter-revolutionary.

At the very least, what's wrong with their decent to them even if they manage to entry is out, it wasn't weaken government but strengthen it. I don't know that for all Palparan's willingness to do as GMA left over and beyond the call of duty, GMA would be greatly overwrought to use him go. All sending Palparan to the new life would do, quite apart from torment the residents of the local life to give GMA her own "Ho Chi Minh trail."

Lest we forget, 9/11 did not weaken the inside George W. Bush; it gave him a new lease on life, enough to win a second term. Without

Representative Cheryl A. Montinola, Antonio Trillo and Simeon Kintanar, for example, filed bills to tear off their districts from Cebu. 18 Iligatan provinces would suit cudgel governors just fine, they said. Rona, "Yes-ET" may give their crumbling careers a three-year reprieve.

Thousands of officials are in the same fix. For them, "No-ET" is also an escape hatch. Will the 2,000 councilors—and others all the theirs—snap at the bait dangled by the regime?

There are, of course, many officials who will reject this cotton candy. But others will smile pads to become—what? (Many shrink at the batch might-have-been word "bahu". They prefer the softer Pinoy euphemism "kabiyang mahu ka ang kapal" (gigantic who think roughage is flesh.)

But that doesn't alter the basic betrayal. As Julius Ceasar stands in one of Shakespeare's plays, "Let me tell you, Cassius, you yourself are much condemned to have an itching palm."

Controversy always hounded "No-ET" even in the Constitutional Consultative Commission. On the first vote, 18 delegates (among them, Chief Jose Abueva and former Sen. Vicente Paterno) voted down it—also wanted to scrapper the polls.

But the most opportunistic mind the city. "The people that are not (talking about) here can't even vote. Okay?" Commissioner Romulo Benipayo cynically argued. "By scrutiny, the people that local authorities have provided to market this is measurable. It's sound. They have this machinery."

Did such a system also smacked of Jacob's handiwork? Benipayo and Noel Lambino (who morphed into point man for people's initiatives) authored the transitory provision. And the hope by commissioners to the Senate Approval vote in the second round, 32 voting for it against 19.

In the end, the Consultative Commission smelled the "No-ET" provision into the draft charter it submitted.

"Greed" and "self-serving" were the milder epithets lobbed by former President Fidel Ramos and church groups and civil society. That forced Speaker Jose de Venecia and others to shelve it to dampen the tempest—fairly certainly it is to rest, as the Defensor speech shows. Jaime's the obvious to Jacob speaks. Thus, the Sketch 9 determination by Defensor gains relevance.

The "No-ET" proposition, Defensor said, also anchored provisions that will vest President Arroyo with powers similar to that of the Marcos-era Batasang Pambansa.

Incumbent members of the Senate and House assume themselves "members of the interim Parliament." And the President gets to stack the Senate. She'll have the power to appoint "50 patriots, experienced and experts in their own fields," as members of Parliament.

Wait. Benigno, (ambition of all are just not rising up. Section 12 says the interim parliament minister and Cabinet shall exercise their functions "under the direction and supervision of the incumbent President." Not Noli de Castro for sure.

Section 13 adds that "the incumbent President shall exercise the powers vested in the head of State and the head of Government ... until the expiration of her term on June 30, 2010."

We can't fan the name presidential system been dolled up as a parliamentary government." The same bind crisis will occur in two.

But the process has started in Cebu to exercise "No-ET." This will strip citizens of their right to vote, and it will be done by officials who are glorified jumping on cushions for what arguably would be their best bawdy house of hookers in that neck of the woods.

E-mail: jean_mercado@pacific.net.ph

Good and bad

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

hasting to resort to dagdag-bawas, as he did the first time in Florida and as he possibly in that other country to the Pacific called the Philippines (more blatantly did). Absent corruption, it allowed the more elements in the American right to seize power, invade Afghanistan and Iraq and support Israel in its occupation of Lebanon, and lubricate the local populace with the thimerosal (mercury) that is the Homeland Security Act of terrorism—the fresh administration did that more effectively), it put steps in front, instead of scouring Hanoi and Kissinger's ideological successors, Bush and Cheney, like the plague, they embraced them.

If the MNIS manages to assassinate Palparan, it won't get the budget or GMRA campaign of terror against its members and her critics, who are often indistinguishable, it will release it completely. It will allow the worst elements in the AFP, notably the generals who helped GMA cheat, to do pretty much anything they please in the name of fighting a reincarnation of Che. And it will find in that assassination the moral ground to fulminate against the MNIS the way Bush found the moral ground to rail against al-Qaeda, making the world forget the atrocious duty-thousanders wreaked upon the world.

At the very most, for all Palparan's homicidal bent, he is no better and no worse than Raul Gonzalez, a convenient lightning rod to attract lightning, or closer to those laughers. The policy does not originate from him, even if he is perfectly capable of improvising surgically as it is implemented. It is designed—or should be designed—from elsewhere. It originates from GMA, and ultimately from the near-universal perception of her illegitimacy. Illegitimacy breeds the fear-

combat—and madness.

The killings won't go away with Palparan because they have found justification or reinforcement in the ideology or culture of war. Even worse than the killings themselves, as Joe remembers only too well, is the ease with which they have been rationalized and met with indifference, if not tacit acceptance, by the public. Have sensibilities the summary execution of people a fit expression of the very spirit of democracy. Even worse than the deaths of activists and peace workers is the collapse of doubt that is the key to the moral conscience and making those deaths possible.

You cannot fight this by uncontrolling individuals, notwithstanding that those individuals are butchery in their own right, or wrong. The only way to fight force is with force, like, but at the level of the state. It is the state that really matters, and the only way to fight from force is with the force of principle. The only way to kill a bad idea is with a good idea.

You want to stop the killings, you do not show that you are just as capable of killing as the enemy. You show that you are capable of ruling life. You assert to stop the slotting of the militant of war, you do not add fuel to the fire by escalating the violence. You wage peace against those who wage war. You want to stop the widespread acceptance of death, you foment the widespread demand for life.

The killings won't be stopped by more killings, they will be stopped by more human rights, or a nation demanding to have them. The deaths won't be stopped by more deaths, they will be stopped by more democracy, or a nation demanding to get it back. The one won't be stopped by more wars, it will be stopped by a nation demanding its have peace—not the peace of the dead but the peace of justice. Peace and justice are but two sides of the same coin. They are not an exemption, they are one.

As to Marcos' time, as to any dictator's time, if we want to stop the killings, we have to wage the campaign for justice and peace, human rights and freedom, national and anti-tyranny all over again.

Let senators and representatives talk now

I WAS IN SEOUL RECENTLY TO COVER THE International Conference of Asian Political Parties (ICAPP), which was attended by three of our senators and nine congressmen. I took the opportunity to talk with them about the looming threat of Charter change. I asked Senator Aquilino Pimentel Jr. and Sen. Edgardo Angara, who represented their parties, PDP-Laban and LDP, respectively, and read papers in the meeting, if I remember correctly. They gave me the impression that they were against Charter change. Pimentel said that while seven of his colleagues were against Cha-cha, he could probably list seven pro-cons. The two females, Pimentel added, were undecided.

* * *

If the three most influential senators have no serious objection to Charter change, where's the problem? Pimentel said Angara could use Senate proposal to convene a constituent assembly with 195 votes all from the House majority. "We cannot keep the Senate out of this process," they both said. Pimentel said he was willing to be shellacked, as he is, but it has to participate in the process of changing the Constitution. Angara said that if the Supreme Court rejects people's initiative, the Senate should file push-up piles to convene a constituent assembly with 190 House votes, as this would further polarize both chambers. Instead he suggested that the constituent assembly be convened after the May 2007 elections, when votes are "counted and recounted."

I pointed out that it would be very difficult to make the Senate agree since our 12 newly elected senators would never agree to have their terms shortened, since doing anything to get elected. Hindi normal 'yung ganun. Angara said, But that may be the only reality.

* * *

Significantly, both Angara and Pimentel said they are open to having a dialogue with House members. Angara said such a move would be a big leap forward, considering the deep mistrust on both sides in the past. "Let it happen now," I said, "and the good mischief would go the rest."

Angara replied with a smile, it would be up to Pimentel "who has never held (citizen's in the Senate." But the latter merely gave an enigmatic smile. They both admitted that in Senate they had talked privately about it with Speaker Jose de Venecia. Later Pimentel told this columnist that the Speaker and the Senate President would begin talking about it soon, and just the need to talk.

I told Deputy Speaker for Mindanao Corey Quirino to inform about the senators' readiness to have a dialogue with House members and he suggested that it be carried out informally. "Perhaps two representatives who have close ties to Senate talk with two senators, first" said to us, instead of having the House acting officially on a congressional resolution. "This way, positions do not harden."

* * *

In his keynote speech at the Seoul conference, Jose De Venecia challenged the political parties in the region to go beyond their traditional role of being mere vehicles for aspiring political elites. He urged them to play a more active role in mediating disputes between states, in challenged democracies vigorously support the rule of law and in developing countries, help mobilize the resources and competence of the various sectors in the society to help in the fight against poverty. He also cited the need to make the peace process work in the Korean Peninsula, in Aceh and in Southern Thailand, in Kashmir and all the way to Chechnya.

At the end of the conference, ICAPP's major proposals were adopted by ICAPP. This included The Incheon Declaration, naming the world's greatest religions, which was begun as an Ecumenical Declaration adopted by the UN General Assembly. How's cha-cha reduction and debate? Or maybe a proposal for the world's greatest religions, who only their debt would be connected into concrete projects in the debtor countries that would directly benefit the poor masses, and the debt suspended for the meeting up of an Asian Fund and Central Bank to promote trade in these pro-poor Asia.

* * *

In his talk before ICAPP, Pimentel shared our concern about political parties, most of which are based not on ideology or principles but around personalities. In our democracy, asserted Pimentel, the president is the center of power and politicians are attracted to the party in power. Thus, politicians share their own personal agenda, to this reality, many parties appear, but the problem, stressed the senator, is that we have a multiparty system that operates like a two-party system. Pimentel asserted that a multiparty system is not bad for a country and he cited as case one "inclusive advantage" it makes it possible for the opposition to campaign and win over the votes of government. This is because a multiparty democracy "compels the political leaders to share power with other political parties." But those operating under the multiparty system, said Pimentel, the name of the game is coalition.

Listening to him deliver his speech, I got the distinct feeling that he's strongly leaned for a parliamentary form of government. Pimentel had introduced this since the 1980s, he said in the PDP-Laban have been advocating a parliamentary/federal form of government. Later, he confirmed to me that he favors a parliamentary system.

A tribute to heroes

COMMENTARY

Emily Abrera

EVERY YEAR FOR THE PAST 49 YEARS, SOMEwhere here or around the world, people gather on Aug. 31, the birthday of the late Filipino soldier Ramon Magsaysay, to personally witness ordinary people The Ramon Magsaysay Award Presidential Guesthouse. Elegant and somewhat grand, the residence of the country's first statesman-turned-president is often graced by individuals whose achievements are recounted, and then a medal and a medallion are solemnly handed over—and received like a blessing.

It is a simple ritual on the face of it, one that can be performed in a proper courtesy of a soft or festive on a slightly subdued tone. Still, behind it a growing community of kindred spirits who knew through traits, inconsistent wisdom and distinction to present at the ceremonies. Why? Because this is a reward that is not only given—it is an exclusive reminiscence. The meaning of heroes.

There's only people gather every August—to salute heroes and celebrate their deeds. The recipients of the Ramon Magsaysay Award are the Filipino (or former of the Philippines) or an individual and one organization who are not each celebration.

Ex San Juan, from Cambodia, has devoted more than a decade of his life to the rehabilitation of the land mine victims and the eradication of that previous measure was going to waste. The task was so daunting that he says he hardly knew where to begin. But he did begin, and he hasn't stopped. In today there is more in the aspect Philippines. Sen. Jose W. Diokno is regarded as the world. He is doing a remarkable thing. He is restoring faith in government.

Park Sang Soon, from Korea, believes that democracies have a better chance when civil societies are vibrant and committed, and take the lead. He has demonstrated this with Hanaphi and several other initiatives such interventions as the Peaceful Reunification and The Hope Institute. A few days ago, we saluted about people's attitudes about money. I remember that too many people are dedicated to attaining it, others would rather not deal with it; yet despite money being considered dirty, few are willing to part with it. Then said, "Money is not a corrupting thing, because you can take its name to an endeavor, luxury adverse diminishes, and maximum being benefited." Park describes his work as social engineering.

Rogelio Aguasin, from the Philippines, is an economist who has dedicated his entire professional life to the rural poor. He is a leader and teacher. He has devoted his knowledge, and it means hundreds of young people in the countryside. And his is a beacon of hope for millions of blind Asians.

Arvind Kejriwal, from India, is an anti-corruption activist and youthful founder of Parivartan, an organization dedicated to rebirth. He is the kind of activist we all need, one who refuses to leave the corruption for its challenges to devote living, the weapon of choice is information, and one armed with it, ordinary citizens discover that they have power, that they can be agents of change, and thus better-informed communities can also be better served by the law.

Imrana Mehsud and the Gawad Kalinga Community Development Foundation, the man and the organization to whom my gratitude is overflowed. It all floods to think of one reason the other. For the Magsaysay Award, it is the first time that the Community Leadership Award is being given to an organization. I convinced that project was genuine enough to change the lives of the unseen poor. They deny that it has been without flaws. In the process, he has attracted storms of doubts and naysayers and inspired the growth of what today is perhaps the country's most effective poverty-alleviation program. By helping just the poorest of the poor, Gawad Kalinga quietly but radically turns slums. Gawad Kalinga sparks hope and a brain beginning by thousands. Time like a family speaks, will tell our instead that he is bravely asking for us from the building glass of the world's most luminous surgeons.

Nobody (between) our heroes have much to share. They hunt from one another. Here we know their stories and learn from them. It is said that you cannot be around great people and not elevate to their status high frequency.

Ramon Magsaysay, the man and the award, is one of those rare gifts that keep on giving. Because of him, we have the reminder that we are not alone. Because of him, we have the reminder that we are not alone. Because of him, we have the reminder that we are not alone.

Are We Five Years Wiser?

WORLD VIEW

Michel Rocard

THE SEPT. 11, 2001 ATTACKS OF AL-QAEDA and the US response have obviously brought about a sea change in international relations, for it would be difficult to argue that further events have not confirmed Mr. Bush's analysis.

Within a week of the attacks, President George W. Bush declared a "war on terrorism." The metaphor of war has the singular advantage that it makes it possible to mobilize the entire force of a country much that was called for. Moreover, the metaphor of war constitutes an implicit appeal to mistake mobilization, not only by a country that commands many assets, but also by its friends and allies.

So one questions America's right to defend itself. The legitimacy of a violent counterattack has never been in doubt. But the war metaphor also implies that the enemy is identified, so be it, that it has its opponents, are emboldening and massive productive.

Moreover war is invoked, it implies a fight against nations, peoples, or states. It implies that some territory will be won and that the enemy will have to be considered hostile. War implies armies and command structures that can be recognized, if not destroyed. In any case, war entails a relationship between enemies with identified armies.

So all of these points, the message of war, as paraphrase US Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, is not helpful. Even if the scale of the Sept. 11 attack was of such a dimension that only the resources of a state could allow it to be carried out, the technique of al-Qaeda that prevented it as a threat to organizations with a worldwide command structure.

But al-Qaeda is more like a loosened sphere of influence, comprising individuals and small local units that are connected by a network of communications. Rumsfeld's image of "dark networks" is apt. Such a network is not a state, but it does not have the characteristics of a state. It is not a state, but it does not have the characteristics of a state. It is not a state, but it does not have the characteristics of a state.

Rumors

I RODE TO THE JEEPNEY TO GET TO MY DESTINATION. I DIDN'T live in a plush exclusive subdivision; I am not a Nobel Prize winner. Rich I think is not my girlfriend. Said Jane (the one who's reading a middle-class lifestyle, I can't afford to have expensive, to other words, I am just an ordinary person living an ordinary life. Is nobody.

There are times, however, when I am forced to think that maybe I am a somebody. These are the times when I am reminded by all sorts of rumors—particularly the kind that harness personalities and the celebrities are fed to.

Ahh as if I were the only one. In Bacolod where talk races around quicker than the speed of light, I am a celebrity. Ahh as if I were Ms. Universe's young sexy artist boyfriend when I was rumored to have a sexual liaison with an older woman. I also felt like I was that schizophrenic politician when she once spread that I had fathered a child out of wedlock. I felt like a notorious prodigal son when I was rumored to have squandered my parents' money over hard-earned money on beer and drugs. The list goes on—from the funny jokes that my best friend in the media relations unit hanging I was once a celebrity.

Actually, I believed that I didn't have to do something to clear my name because there was not a kernel of truth to any of these rumors. But I also felt that it was my obligation to defend my honor and integrity before the rumors destroyed me and the people who meant a lot to me. I didn't want a time to come when my friends would ostracize me, afraid that they would be tagged as "friends of the same bastard" or "I couldn't care my girlfriend think I was just taking my pleasure wherever we found love. And most importantly, I wouldn't let my parents ask themselves where they went wrong when they were raising up.

These damn rumors have affected me. There have been times when I felt so angry, impatient, and paranoid. There were times when I questioned my own identity. I would think that maybe I was behaving in ways a normal person might not be. I would feel less sensitive.

Sometimes I would think that maybe it is wrong to be so affectionate and friendly to everybody, because people might think I am a playboy. I would think that maybe it's wrong to spend time or watch movies alone because people might suspect I am engaging in some kinky-kinky deal. sometimes I think that maybe it's wrong to have fun and join friends on night outs because people might say I am a drunkard.

Rumors can be disorienting. In fact, they can destroy lives.

But rumors are not going to overwhelm me. I have realized from now on to ignore whatever naked strangers have to say about me. As long as I am going about my own business, rumors shouldn't bother me anymore. Worrying about rumors is a waste of time and energy.

This is not to say that I would have dying all over the rumors concern being spread about me. Once my patience runs out, I will express positive time and energy, and even my parents' hard-earned money, to me after the rumor mongers and would come to me and say that I was a fraud. Many other pleasure-seekers do that sending out vile diatribe.

I'm fascinated by how these people concoct their rumors. They are so creative that if they would only put their wild imaginations to good use, they would come up with marvelous big books.

We were so few with rumors because gossiping seems to have become a national pastime. In this morning, a person's mistakes are sensationalized while his achievements are downplayed. Isn't the world the opportunities arises, but don't get drunk during the celebration for your business could easily be ruined by a rumor.

They say that where there is smoke, there is fire. The problem is that even when there is no fire, those rumor-mongers start one. And they keep adding fuel so that fire.

I cannot understand why people want to invent rumors. If doing it is their idea of having happy moments with their friends, can't something more altruistic? If they do it out of envy, would they get what they don't have from the person whose reputation they are trying to destroy? If it is because of anger, would their name not become somebody else's life has been ruined?

I don't think so. A person's success should not be measured against another's failure but by how well he has lived his life.

But maybe I am wrong, maybe it's the other way around in this country.

One reason we are not making a lot of progress as a nation is that there is a lot of back stabbing going on among our leaders and even among ordinary people. We measure our success by means we might all the time. Take our legislators, for example. They can't come up with urgently needed legislation because they are constantly at each other's throats. What a pathetic country we have! And what an even more pathetic people who are!

It may have become a cliché, but I think we should stop pulling each other down. We should develop a sense of unity and respect and love one another. That may sound like an old-fashion song, but we need all those big words to propel us to progress.

There is hope. If we can highlight what's beautiful in everyone or at least speak the truth and nothing more, then we would be better off as a nation. So come, dream with me. And let's make that dream happen.

Jose Carlo C. Pineda, 28, is a native of the Visayas de Bacolod City.

YOUNG BLOOD

Jose Carlo C. Pineda

We want to know what the young are thinking about. What are their thoughts on current issues? On world-wide issues? Especially from the twenty-something and below.—Ed.

NOTICE TO YOUNGBLOOD CONTRIBUTORS:

Send your contributions by e-mail to youngblood@inquirer.com.ph, and please include your address, age and the school, course and year you're enrolled in or if employed, the position you're holding and the company you work with. Unedited letters to Youngblood should not have been previously published.

THEY SAID

Power mania

"To let mad desire for power, she has corrupted and destroyed all institutions, she has promoted a policy of lust and plunder while hypocritically announcing a new opposite of peace."

—Statement Reg. Gen. Ronald Ray, in the congressional club where he announced withdrawal of support from the President

The INQUIRER is a member of the PHILIPPINE PRESS INSTITUTE
The National Association of Philippine Newspapers

Address the root cause of leakage scandal

AUTHOR CLAUDIO TEEHANKEE FOR A swift, just and thorough resolution to the looming leakage scam/s/ery, we call on colleagues in the nursing and education professions, as well as concerned officials and organizations, to address the issue beyond the leakage.

The controversy highlighted the concerns we had raised even before it erupted—the mushrooming of schools (with sub-standard quality, lack of clinical facilities, inexperienced teachers), the adoption of unethical and unacceptable practices by schools, review centers etc., and the phenomenon of doctors becoming nurses which has led to the closure of some health facilities in underserved communities. Nursing education today generally has never seen for quality than it is being seen, more undesirable production of properly trained nurses. The only way to go is to enhance the quality of nursing education so that the interest of the international market is contained.

On the local scale, the kind of educators threatens "safe" nursing practice. The turnover rate of nurses is such that the quality of services has gone down. With the higher number of graduates, we may feel no necessarily of nurses, but there is, in reality, a shortage in experienced nurses. Such a situation has lead to further exploitation of nurses.

I had hoped that the affected hospitals would address their nurses in way by improving their compensation system and putting in place a retention package. Initially they did but after a year or two, as soon as hospitals realized there were so many nurse graduates, the situation worsened. Stifled up regular positions became a common thing which led to an increase in nurse patient ratio in hospitals began resuming "volunteer" nurses who possible the experience to fill in the gaps.

The leakage was found to happen with so many schools trying to improve their passing rate through any means without addressing the very thing they should be doing—the structural improvements of their own system to bring about optimum education. This also brought about the problem of an epidemic in view of impending review centers. It should be noted that it is normal practice for review centers to pay deans and schools an amount per student. Even in placement of graduates, schools profit. Schools are now more in the business of training. Thus, it becomes a vicious cycle, yet the root cause is not being addressed.

What is the root cause? Failure to regulate the opening, operation and/or quality-closing (many of schools by the Commission on Higher Education (CHED). With no recommendation role, the Professional Regulation Commission also shares part of the responsibilities. The situation is hopeful. For a long time, the call and efforts to stem the tide fell on deaf ears and blind eyes. It helps that the whole world and media are focusing its interests. Now we can address the real issues.

—JOSEPH A.L. TUAZON, dean, College of Nursing, University of the Philippines Manila, Pedro Gil Street, Ermita, Manila

Matias clan denies alliance with NPA

THIS IS IN REACTION TO SOLITA Monsod's column titled "NPA landlords alliance" (PDI, 8/26/06), which singled out the case involving the property of the Matias family in Quezon Province.

1. The Matias family has not paid a single centavo to the New People's Army. It could and will never do. Why?

* The NPA was mainly responsible for the "slow-bleed" operation in the '70s, which forced the family to relocate and take their cows.

* In 2000, some 100 NPA rebels attacked the ranch and set fire to the Matias house. (PDI, 8/12/01)

* A year later, NPA members murdered Renato Victorino, a barangay captain and a very close relative of the family.

* Cousin Mutya Ai has been forced to hide after receiving death threats from the NPA for the last five years.

* The family has always cooperated with the military in trying to neutralize the NPAs in the area.

Given this history, it is unimaginable how the family could possibly be in alliance with the NPA, as Monsod suggests/gests/.

2. The family now owns only 1,000 hectares of pasture land/cattle ranch—not 2,000 hectares of coconut plantation. As a cattle ranch/pasture land, these pieces of property are not agricultural lands within the purview of the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program (CARP) as ruled by Supreme Court, which recently reiterated this position in DAR vs Delia Ilarion et al. The "farmers" cannot therefore validly claim these lands/cattle are, in the first place, coverered by CARP.

3. There are hundreds of families peacefully living in the ranch. Most of them have objected to plans for any violent agrarian reform. The 66 "farmers" (some are not even found in the ranch) are among the few who were asked to leave the ranch for committing officially restricted to the operations of the ranch. These "farmers" have filed a case against the family. The case has since been dismissed by the DAR's Provincial Adjudication Board and is now on appeal at the Central Office.

4. Even while the case is pending, these "farmers" have been creating all sorts of trouble in the area, leaving the family with no other alternative but to file criminal charges against them for trespassing, malicious mischief, theft, etc.

5. The "story" about "armed men" confronting the municipal agrarian reform officer (DAR) and some military men at gunpoint is complete lie. The soldiers surrendered to the "armed men"? The fact is the family's livestock (caretaker) asked them to produce the legal documents authorizing them to enter the premises. Unable to do so, they voluntarily left.

We strongly feel that these so-called farmers cannot simply invoke agrarian reform and flagrantly commit crimes on the premises. That is becoming unsettling.

Just like other citizens, we cannot ignore the very basic legal principle that landowners also have rights to protect and property to defend.

—ROLANDO EDUARDO M. BALDOZA, legal counsel for the Matias family, Suite 307, Pueblo Center Bldg., San Miguel Avenue, Pasig City

Illegal structures back on sidewalk

THE OUTSIDE TRUE BOX APPROACH of Fernando Bayani and the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority under him to streets of Metro Manila's problems has impressed me, although I do disagree with some of MMDA initiatives.

The morning drum-roll billboards, for example, is commendable. However, I recently saw a picture of this huge billboard done to the MMDA office. This reminded me of ancient Middle East practice that I fully support: the removal of illegal structures on sidewalks.

MMDA has some sort of a depot in Santa Rufina Street, between Roxas Boulevard and Recto Avenue, I visited every impressed when they cleared the sidewalk across the depot of illegal kamikazes (taxicabs) and shanties some time last year. However, I was shocked to find out that soon after the clearing operation, illegal structures were back, only this time, there are more of them to cover the entire length of the block.

Even worse, the stalls and shanties are connected with the MMDA's cloak of this. The can only mean two things: either these structures are "legal" because they carry the official colors of MMDA, or the joint task was stolen from MMDA.

Worse of all, shanties are now being put up on the opposite side of the road. I am very interested to find out the real story behind these ugly structures. Do they have the blessings of certain high officials of MMDA?

—JOSE ESTES, mjvestes@yahoo.com

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
TV GUIDE
Tuesday, September 12, 2006
Hosted by Heart Evangelista
Mon-Fri • 8 P.M.
Pinoy Idol
TV SCHEDULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

E-mail to [illegible]

Across the NATION

Text or fax feedback to [illegible] or 337 (Globe) or 281 (Smart). Assistant Editor Tony Bergonia

2 more Army battalions sent to Caraga

BUTUAN CITY—TWO BATTALIONS OF ARMY soldiers have been deployed to Caraga as reinforcements to troops battling communist guerrillas.

Brig. Gen. Louie Miras, brigade commander of the army's 401st Infantry Brigade, was quick to dismiss the military's claim that the deployment was part of the state's policy to purge the region of left-wing activities.

"It's not our drive to kill rebels. It's to protect them. The army is the protector of the people," Miras told reporters.

Miras said the deployment was in line with the strategic and tactical plan to crush the Maoist rebellion, particularly in Surigao del Norte and Agusan del Norte, "where the rebels' presence is strong.

A total of four battalions now operate in the region.

Analyst Jaime Tadeo, spokesperson of the human rights group Karapatan, said the "troops' arrival would intensify the political killings in the region.

At least 14 left-wing activists were killed in the region this year, Karapatan said.

The latest victim was Jaime Pinedilla, leader of the militant tribal group Pigbasanggan (Bagansan Magkakaisa) (PKP), who was shot dead last week by three motorcycle-riding gunmen in Barangay Gimbalan, Buenavista, Agusan del Norte.

Jorge Madlos, spokesperson of the National Democratic Front in Mindanao, said the group's movements would not be cowed by the presence of troops hunting them.

"We are used to that," he said.

Madlos also warned that a bloody end awaits the soldiers responsible for the spate of militant killings in the region.

While the military was sending more soldiers to the region, at least 500 families (spiritual teachers) sought financial and technical support from the national government in their bid to promote peace and reconciliation, which they consider as effective tools to rid Mindanao of the global threat on terror.

The three-day camp stand aspires that the panelists are in the verge of extraction, said Zamzamin Ampatuan, administrator of the newly-constituted Southern Philippines and Development Authority.

During the First Sunday Grand Assembly held here on Sept. 8-9, the group asked the Arroyo administration to help strengthen the current self-religious calling by providing technical and financial assistance in making the group responsive to the need for genuine Islamic teaching.

Ampatuan, who said is head the National Anti-poverty Commission, explained that to become a panelist is a gift and a trust calling from Allah. "They attend to the spiritual wellbeing of the faithful without monetary consideration; it's true, these are voluntary."

The group came up with a resolution asking the government to help promote the revival of the panditas.

"Anyone can be a pandita. But to be revered as one, he must be knowledgeable of the Koran and endorsed by the community despite his being unschooled or without formal religious training," said Ampatuan.

"Never one learned, for a true pandita is never angry, patient and always forgiving," Ampatuan added.

The group also debunked some fundamental teachings like suicide bombings and other forms of mass murder, involving even innocent civilians, is gateway to heaven for the perpetrators. Fourdith A. Collado and Charlie C. Señen, Inquirer Mindanao

Thousands to be sent home as Mayon cools

LEGAZPI CITY, Albay—Disaster officials expect thousands of evacuees to be sent back home and welcome their livelihood to their villages "anytime this week" as Mayon continued to cool down.

Only six volcanic earthquakes were detected in the past 24-hour observation period, the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology reported yesterday.

Mayon's last small explosion was recorded on Sept. 2 while lava flow was reported to have decreased to volcanic list Aug. 28.

Mayon's resulting gova smaller, indicating less magma coming up, Phivolcs added.

Cedric Daep, Provincial Disaster Coordinating Council executive officer, said even after the alert level status of Mayon had been lowered by the Phivolcs, villagers are still advised to keep off a 7-km extended danger zone.

Mayon spewed around 32 million cubic meters of hot lava, raising its longest lava trail in 38 years.

Volcanologists earlier warned of possible life-threatening pyroclastic flows that could be generated upon the collapse of lava lava deposits.

"We have already informed (the evacuees) since two weeks ago of the hazards they are facing as villagers residing near the foot of Mayon even after the alert level status has been lowered," Daep said.

Alex Baldoz, science research analyst at Phivolcs-Bicol, said Mayon has recently seen flare-ups in Phivolcs seismic office in Manila to determine if it was now safe for the villagers to return home.

Since alert level 4 was raised over Mayon for the past 33 days, more than 60,000 villagers have been evacuated to their relatives' relatives and three centers in Albay.

Most of these villagers relied on farming, weaving and livestock raising as their main sources of living.

The Provincial Agricultural Services reported last week that the eruption brought P1.1 million in damages to crops.

Livestock left behind in the villages suffered from severe malnutrition. Ephraim Aguilar, Inquirer Southern Luzon

POPULAR WASTE
Piles of durian skin litter a street sidewalk in Davao City. While the garbage is unsightly, vendors say it's an indication of the high sale of durian.

Mining firm vows high standards, more jobs

LEGAZPI CITY—A MINING FIRM in Nueva, Palawan has vowed to achieve the highest standards of responsible management in its operations and help bring economic prosperity to the residents of the sub-villages of Pulot and Tarusan in Barangay San Isidro in the municipality.

"The mining industry has much to offer towards sustainable development. Our firm continues improving its environmental performance and will continue to do so," Michael Angelo L. Plutonio, Group Shrink Group (PSMC) president, said in a press statement.

Angelo added that PSMC was conducting a series of regular interactions with the communities and other stakeholders.

Elsa Reja, the Provincial Mining Regulatory Board reported the approval of the Olympic Mines and Development Corp. (OMDC) to cancel its 2003 operating agreement with the PSMC.

The board, headed by Governor Joel Reyes, said Olympic presented recycled arguments it had submitted to the regional office court of Puerto Princesa.

In its decision, the SEC junked Olympic's petition, which sought to prevent the operation of PSMC in the mining area in San Isidro and Sofronio Española in the municipality of Narra, through the cancellation of their operating agreement.

Saying PSMC did not violate any provisions in the small-scale mining permit issued to the Olympic Mines, the SEC said the case of Olympic for lack of merit on May 16 and affirmed that the operating agreement could not be rescinded or revoked.

In a letter held last month, a nationwide network of organizations, however, alleged that PSMC caused environmental damage by over-extracting minerals more than the allowable volume specified in its small-scale mining permit.

Based on the permit it got in November 2004, PSMC was only allowed to extract no more than 10,000 tons of ore per year per mine site for two years or until November 2006. Inquirer Southern Luzon

Gas leak blast kills 2; terror link denied

By Norman Mapalacar and Johnes Balcanton
Inquirer Visayas

CEBU CITY—TWO PERSONS were killed and at least 14 others were injured in an explosion caused by a gas leak which occurred at around 6 a.m. yesterday at a laundry shop in Barangay Banilad, Mandaue City.

Felipe Bermejo, 57, a resident of Barangay T. Padilla, Cebu City, was declared dead on arrival at the Vicente Sotto Memorial Medical Center (VSMMC) here.

The other fatality, a mentally challenged woman who was frequently seen in the area, remained unidentified, police said.

Police said both the fatalities and most of the wounded were passers by or standing along the street near the laundry shop where the explosion happened.

The shop occupied the ground floor of the two-story building owned by former Mandaue City Mayor Ernesto Cortes Jr.

Police said a heavy vapor rushed to the area following the powerful explosion, fearing it could be a bomb attack as it coincided with the 9/11 anniversary and with Cebu hosting 150 foreign and local legislators attending the five-day Asian Inter-Parliamentary Organization (AIPO) 27th General Assembly which opened yesterday.

Police officials, however, confirmed that the explosion was not a terrorist attack but was caused by a gas leak inside the Gina's Laundry Services owned by Lynne Sanchez, who also owns 11 other branches of the shop located mostly in Cebu City.

Senior Supt. Eduardo Candoso, chief of the Mandaue City Police Office, said the two LPG tanks, weighing 28.8 kilograms each, were not shut off by the worker when she left the laundry shop on Sunday night.

"Our initial findings indicated that it wasn't a bomb as earlier speculated. It was a mechanical explosion caused by a pressurized (LPG) tank... We have no evidence that would lead to operations that the laundry shop was bombed," Candoso said.

Lone worker Lorna Bahio, 26, of Medellin town, told police that when she reported for work at 8 a.m. yesterday, she already smelled gas odor but just ignored it.

"When I turned on the dryer, the explosion occurred," Bahio, who suffered second-degree burns in various parts of her body, told police at her hospital bed at the Cebu General Hospital in Mandaue City.

Bahio said the survived because she was thrown inside the dryer when the blast occurred.

Sanchez, who could not be seen at other branch of Gina's Laundry Services, said all the branches have been using LPG to power the burners at the dryers.

Police identified the injured victims as Nicanor Maldoza Jun, 23, of Tisa, Labao; Gutruda Cabuyao, 42, of Ibaan, Mandaue City and her two children—one-and-a-half-year-old Lanie and Rosemarie, 5, and niece Marjorie Tigbao, 17, Lorna Bahio, 20, Hyman Ulgasan, 52, of Basak; Elvie Sanchez, 30 of Basak; Genaro Dorio, 46, of Tisa Labasan, Cebu City; Rolando Bisc, 48, of Ermajud, Mandaue City and his wife Elizabeth, 42; Suzanne Cortes, 17, Basak; Celerina Bilog, 53; and Amarh Cedilla, 35.

Batangas gov's poor health keeps him indoors

BATANGAS CITY—BATANGAS Gov. Armando Sanchez's absence in a recent flag ceremony at the provincial hall was attributed to a health problem that his administration said was a result of the various injuries he suffered in an assassination attempt.

"There are no security problems. Instead, it is because of health reasons," lawyer Rosalio Torres, provincial administrator, said when asked about the governor's absence in recent flag ceremony.

Sanchez recently escaped a bomb explosion that ripped apart his Hummer vehicle and killed his bodyguard and driver, while he was on his way home, last June 1.

He suffered second-degree burns in the head, arms and chest. The wounds have not healed, said Torres.

Police authorities are still investigating the attack, which was linked to the operations of "jueteng" and other criminal activities.

Sanchez was tanned in a first-term campaign as one of the top jueteng lords in the country, which he repeatedly denied.

After spending two weeks in the hospital, Sanchez officially returned to the capitol last June 19, starting with a flag ceremony in the morning and ending with a flag ceremony in the afternoon.

Absence of epidermis only exposes the skin to deep swelling after exposure of sunlight exposure.

Doctors have advised the governor to refrain from engaging in activities involving intense sunlight exposure.

Sanchez's doctors, Torres said, have not issued a statement on how he should be cleared to return to flag-raising activities.

He clarified though that the order did not affect the governor's regular public appearances, except in last month's May-Linkod.

Sanchez's father Dante is vacationed the Batangas Provincial Sports Complex gym instead of participating in the walk, according to Torres.

"The governor also filed a leave of absence from office two weeks ago due to high fever," Torres said.

Marlon Alexander Lolarga, Inquirer Southern Luzon

ENTREPRENEURIAL SON
Zamboanga City Mayor Celso Lobregat (third, from left) confers on singer Lucio Tan the title of "Entrepreneurial Son of Zamboanga" in recognition of his numerous investments, philanthropy and social contributions in Mindanao. In his remarks, Tan recognized Mindanao's growth potential and announced P1.25 billion in fresh investments in the region.

Alien pest threatens coconut, banana farms

LOS BAÑOS, LAGUNA—A FOREIGN INSECT pest first reported in infest coconut trees is now posing a threat to the country's banana industry and has also infested over 30 other trees and ornamental plants, a scientist from the University of the Philippines at Los Baños (UPLB) said yesterday.

Dr. Isvimo Ul Jr., an entomologist at the UPLB, said the new pest, identified as the buff coconut mealybugs (BCMs), has been damaging thousands of economically important plants and trees like coconut, hamnon and other fruit-bearing trees in the five provinces of Calabarzon and several towns in the Bicol region.

He said the infestation of this type of mealybugs, locally called "tipulak," was also reported in Visayas and Mindanao provinces, specifically in Davao and Bukidnon.

"We recently received a sample of bananas infested by the pest from Davao and we were able to confirm that BCMs had indeed infested banana trees," Ul told the reporters.

Aside from economic and banana, BCMs are also plaguing ash, pepsbeen, guava, star apple, chico, avocado and gab, among other fruits.

But coconut farmers in the country, who are still reeling from the destructive effects of the palm leaf beetle, will bear much of the burden brought by the sudden rise of population of BCMs.

"Definitely, this pest could undermine our multibillion-peso coconut industry," he said.

Marlon Ramos, Inquirer Southern Luzon

The "Ber" Months Seat Sale

Ber-y affordable!
Ber-y good for every Juan!
September 5 - 12, 2006

₱99** To Laoag
Travel period: August 30 to December 31, 2006

₱199** All Visayas
Travel period: October 2 to December 15, 2006

₱299** All Mindanao
Travel period: October 2 to December 15, 2006

₱1,499** Cebu - Singapore
Travel period: October 23 to December 15, 2006

Manila - Singapore
Travel period: October 2 to December 15, 2006

₱1,999** Davao - Singapore via Cebu
Travel period: October 23 to December 15, 2006

Book early, pay less: CEBU PACIFIC AIR.COM	
Manila - Hong Kong	₱1,999++
Cebu - Hong Kong (non-stop)	₱2,499++
Davao - Hong Kong via Cebu (non-stop)	₱2,999++

CEBU PACIFIC
It's how we put you first.

Call (02) 70-20-888
or visit the Travel Agent nearest you.

IN THE KNOW

THE BUFF COCONUT MEALYBUG. Mature coconuts (left) and other fruit and ornamental plants. It damages the crop by feeding directly from the plant's sap, producing sticky honeydew, which accumulates within the host plant and eventually develops sooty molds. This damage causes leaves to yellow and gradually turn brown. In what is called a "mealybug burn."

The most vulnerable are coconut trees.
Inquirer Research

METRO citizen's call

0918 8985566

Have you a story to tell?

Like your car got stuck in a pothole on a long-delayed road project?

...An interesting activity in your barangay that's worth crowing about?

...Funny signs along the road that make you chuckle?

Tell us about it!

Get involved in community affairs. Share the good news, and the bad (if it means improving our city). In short, make Metro Manila a safer, more attractive and exciting place to live in. All it takes is just a tip from you through a text or picture message to us.

TIP US OFF ABOUT YOUR DELIGHTFUL FINDS OR UNPLEASANT DISCOVERIES. WHATEVER THE MESSAGE, READ IT FIRST IN THE INQUIRER METRO!

JUST TEXT SMS: ccall name/age/location <message>
MMS: <insert photo> ccall name/age/location <caption/message>

SEND TO 0918-8985566

Any personal information you send is confidential, and will only be used for the purposes described above. We guarantee never to sell personal information or share that information with third parties unrelated to the Philippine Daily Inquirer or its associated companies or organizations.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

BAGUIO MOVEMENT

Backyard farming goes organic

By Vincent Cabreza
Inquirer Northern Luzon

BAGUIO CITY—IF SEEN WITH long planting boards are digging near your backyards, don't be scared. Their likely belong to a group of farmers who have been quietly planting organic vegetables on idle land in the city.

Pastor Gana, an Ibaloi farmer, started a crusade to revive urban farming here in 1994, but few people took it seriously. Those who encounter his group often refer to its members as "peasants," "Cordyblue Jeans" or "base" of the ba(K)ayan(C)ity Boys.

But Gana said the boards actually scanned each other of their collective commitment to promote organic vegetables.

"We will continue keeping these boards as long as we can, or at least until a banking agency completely releases P25 million to our group [the Brookside Multipurpose Cooperative] so we can build our greenhouses," he said.

Their advocacy received a boost when the city government allowed them to plant lettuce, tomatoes and pechay trees on plant boxes along the sidewalk.

HIGH LOOKING Ibaloi pioneer, Bro Gaito crusader Victor Ines, have been digging up idle Baguio lots that would no plant organic vegetables. Ines's group/coop-mate boards long to signify their commitment to regreening urban Baguio with organic lettuce, tomatoes and potatoes as a way of introducing livelihood to poor urbanites.

Centennial countdown

The city government has launched a three-year countdown to Baguio's centennial celebration on Sept. 1, 2009, and is greening the place for the many weddings Metro's help, according to Brenderes Hilandres, city tourism officer.

Organically grown vegetables and ornamental flowers will replace decorative plants in the festive activities, including the Baguio Convention Center, he said.

Vegetables will be gradually introduced to the urban environment, beginning with pedestrian concourses.

Farmers say architect Joseph Mahinnes has been urging the city government to increase the number of plants along the overpasses to help cleanse the air.

They said the group hopes to introduce backyard farms to subdivisions and villages with heavy concentrations of poor families.

"They don't have to grow eggplants on flat land. They can grow a single carrot or a tomato in an average plant box, and we will help it from there. Members hold can sell a kilogram of tomatoes for P25, and we can collect those so we can supply bigger markets," he said.

Korean market

One such market is right in the neighborhood, Hilandres said.

"Koreans have been flocking to the city and they prefer organic vegetables, so people who initiate ways to plant organics can sell their produce quickly," he said.

Three Korean restaurants have been looking for sources of quality organic vegetables to cook as they opened, Hilandres said.

Baguio hosts the second largest Korean community in the Philippines because of its cold climate and its small-town culture where crime volume is low, said Ben Hosky, a Korean businessman based here.

Antonio Pinto, local manager of Seoul Garden, said the number of Koreans in the city had grown by 20 percent yearly. There are 1,811 Koreans of missionary and high school age who hold special study permits and 605 Koreans enrolled in local universities, he said.

"We have 2,331 Koreans staying in Baguio at any given time. We can't monitor transient tourists," Ryu said.

The average Korean student spends some P15,750 each month on food and accommodation, he said.

But to supply Koreans alone with organic vegetables could be arduous and expensive if left to the hands of conventional farmers, said Ines.

Too few organic farmers

Organic farming, he said, was a movement opposed to industrial farming and he relies on chemical inputs to speed up production.

Most farmers are so poor they prefer to double their lower yields quickly, as few of them gamble on organic vegetables, he said.

Only 200 of 11,000 farmers in Benguet grow organic vegetables, he said. About 20 of the organic farmers are based on the outskirts.

"A student can earn as much as P25 to P125 each month, and that's not bad for a meal or two. Or maybe a student can grow his own food and save his allowances," Hilandres said.

Student volunteers have been assisting Ines develop sections of the Baguio Convention Center into a plot urban gardens.

The market requires 5-10 tons of organic vegetables weekly from Benguet, which the city can easily supply if every flowerpot grows a potato or two, Ines said.

Peace pilgrimage today to draw 10,000 people

LIPA CITY—AT LEAST 10,000 devotees from all over the country are expected to attend the national pilgrimage for peace at the Sto. Sebastian Cathedral and Carmelo Church here today.

President Macapagal-Arroyo, through Proclamation No. 1005, officially declared Sept. 12 "National Day of Prayer, Reparation and Consecration" on July 17, emphasizing that the day of prayer, confession, reparation and consecration was material to promote attainment of national peace.

This year's theme is "With Mary We Sing, Praise, Love and Adore Only Jesus, Always Jesus, Forever Jesus."

The pilgrimage coincides with the 50th anniversary of the Marian apparition to Sr. Teresita Castillo of the Carmelite Convent in Lipa on Sept. 12, 1948.

Castillo was believed to have heard and witnessed the Virgin Mary herself, unfolding a miraculous chronicle of events in the apparition site that attracted thousands of devotees and pilgrims.

The vessel's host leaves the convent in 1951 for health reasons.

That same year, the Catholic Church acquired the miraculous chronicle and banned the image of the Our Lady of Mount Medjugorje of Mt Banes from public veneration.

Forty years later, Castillo witnessed another miraculous penultimate in 1991.

Lipa Archbishop Ramon Arguelles, who has avoided the apparition site since his 1982 installation, granted permission for the public exposure of the image on July 16, 1992.

Castillo publicly affirmed his belief in the apparition last until now, the Vatican has yet to make a statement declaring the veracity of the miracle. Marlen Ababa de Castro, Inquirer Southern Luzon

Leftist groups assail use of cadets for oil cleanup

By Nestor Burgos Jr.
Inquirer Visayas

KALIBO CITY—MILITANT youth groups here have condemned the order of President Macapagal-Arroyo to mobilize college students in Boracay and Negros in the cleanup of oil sludge on the shores of Guimaras Island.

The League of Filipino Students (LFS) in Kalibonga said the order would put to risk the health and safety of students who would be exposed to highly toxic areas affected by the oil spill from the tanker MT Solar 1.

"While we encourage everyone to do their share in helping

WOMEN wear mask to avoid foul odor coming from Petron's bunker fuel in Barangay Cabulagan, Mhoro Vibora in Guimaras.

the victims and address the oil slick, any help should be voluntary and not required because of the risks involved," Karen Edanol, spokesperson of Anakbayan in Panay, said in a telephone interview.

During meetings of the National Disaster and Coordinating Council (NDCC) and the Task Force Guimaras on Wednesday, the President ordered the doubling of the number of industrial and personnel involved in the cleanup.

She directed Defense Secretary and NDCC chair Avelino Cruz to mobilize cadets under the Reserve Officers' Training Corps from Panay and Negros to help in the cleanup.

College students enrolled in the National Service Training Program from the two islands will also be tapped, the President had said.

Edanol said the order "effectively passes the burden of cleaning up the environmental disaster from the people instead of the spiller."

"If additional workers are needed, then Petron and the owner of the Solar 1 should hire more personnel because, last the President knew, they are the most responsible for the oil spill that has destroyed the livelihood of fisherfolk and devastated the environment," said Edanol.

She pointed out that hiring more workers to help in the cleanup would be easy for Petron, citing the P2.7 billion net income of the giant oil firm recorded from January to June.

Petron has hired around 1,700 workers of the affected villages in order to help in the cleanup operations for P500 per day. Petron spokesperson Carlos Tan earlier said the companies are spending P

NEWS

P3,002,125,000 PAID

Gov't can now take over Naia 3

By Joselyn R. Uy, Gil C. Cabacungan Jr. and Christine O. Avendaño

IT'S OFFICIAL.

The government can now take over the multibillion Ninoy Aquino International Airport Terminal 3 after its partial payment of P3 billion was accepted yesterday by the builder, the Philippine International Air Terminals Co. Inc. (Piatco).

Judge Jesus Mupas of the Pasay Regional Trial Court issued a writ of possession for Naia 3 to the government late in the afternoon, after the Land Bank of the Philippines handed to the court a manager's check for P3,002,125,000 payable to Piatco.

"By agreement of the parties, the writ of possession shall be subject to revocation in case the check in favor of [Piatco] is not honored for whatever reason," Mupas said in his order.

The check was received by Piatco lawyer Eduardo de los Angeles, who said that with the initial payment, the government could now begin to paint on Naia 3.

"As long as the just compensation will be fully paid, in as far as this case is concerned, the government will be able to operate the airport," De los Angeles told reporters yesterday.

Piatco went to court to demand "just compensation" of P825 million (roughly P25 billion) for the government offered to settle for P220 million (about P16 billion). In 2005, the Pasay court ordered the government to pay Piatco a down payment of P3 billion.

De los Reyes said Piatco was willing to negotiate with the government on the matter of just compensation.

In an interview with the bureau yesterday, Mupas said just compensation would be determined by the three-man commission the court appointed last year.

He said he would approve the three commissioners—Fe Floro Jr. Roxas, Zoilo de Ungria and Augusto Magsaysay—today to begin the process of evaluating the true value of the airport facility.

"The government was fully expropriating Naia 3 after it has fully settled its obligation to Piatco," he said.

From Helsinki, Finland, where he was with President Macapagal-Arroyo, Presidential Spokesperson Ignacio Bunye said P3 billion might be a big price to pay for government control of Naia 3 but it was well worth it to bring back investor confidence to the country.

"We may be parting with a huge sum of money but this is a reasonable price compared to what we are set to gain once we fully start its operations," Bunye told reporters covering the President's visit to Finland.

"The decision to pay the P3 billion is all about adherence to the rule of law and the interest of the people," he said.

Finance Secretary Gary Teves stressed to concur.

He said business would be the happiest sector when Naia 3 is finally opened.

He said this would "remove the signal that we're serious about wooing foreign investors."

"We'll be hoping there will be no hiccups along the way and we can open the terminal as soon as possible," he said.

Teves said Budget Secretary Rolando Andaya said it was not the national government but the Manila International Airport Authority (Miaa) that would pay Piatco for the terminal.

"It will come from their [Miaa] corporate budget," Andaya told reporters at a Palace briefing, referring to the P3-billion down payment.

As for the balance, "in early or several months ago, we talked to the Development Bank of the Philippines and the Land Bank and they were prepared to provide the funds to support the [remainder] with a 20-40 day notice," Teves said.

All that would be needed is the report of the [commission] assessing the market value of the terminal, he said.

Once the report is submitted and the government agrees with it, Teves said, "we can work on the balance, whatever the amount is."

Solicitor General Antonio Nachura said it will be the Pasay court that will determine the fairness of the compensation to be awarded Piatco.

INITIAL payment of P3 billion paves the way for the opening of the multibillion Naia 3.

World's heaviest, longest-serving monarch dies

WELLINGTON... THE LATE King Taufa'ahau Tupou IV ended the reign of one of the world's longest-serving, most colorful and luxurious monarchs.

Tonga is an archipelago of 169 islands in the South Pacific. In the mid-1980s, its king made about $30 million selling Tongan passports mostly to Asian buyers, reportedly including the late strongman Ferdinand Marcos and his wife Imelda.

The 88-year-old king—who once strained the scales at more than 300 kg (660 pounds)—made headlines in the 1990s when he lash-marvel s remarks "got fit" campaign.

A new slimmed-down profile of the man was chosen off to the world as he led his subjects on a drive to fight the nation's noncommunicable problems.

Four after his 70th birthday, the capital's airport would regularly be closed so he could ride a bicycle up and down the runway accompanied by his bodyguards.

Tupou became an increasingly distant and eccentric figure in his later years after earlier winning praise for his attempts to modernize the isolated nation of around 110,000.

He had long resisted the push to loosen the monarchy's hold on power, with the constitution guaranteeing control of parliament in the hands of the king and nobles and giving him the power to appoint the prime minister and cabinet.

But in a sign of change, this year, he appointed the first commoner, Feleti Sevele, as prime minister and chose two others to serve in the cabinet.

Family of monarchs

Directly descended from a line of monarchs who took power in the mid-19th century, Tupou assumed the throne in 1965 after the death of his mother, the revered Queen Salote.

Tupou did much to modernize Tonga, improving education, healthcare and infrastructure.

But the king was involved in a series of financial controversies as he tried to find ways of overcoming his kingdom's poverty.

A scandal erupted in 2003 when it emerged that nearly $20 million had been lost in speculative investments by the king's appointed court jester and former [illegible] and they were prepared to provide the funds to support the [remainder] with a 20-40 day notice," Teves said.

All that would be needed is the report of the [commission] assessing the market value of the terminal, he said.

Once the report is submitted and the government agrees with it, Teves said, "we can work on the balance, whatever the amount is."

Solicitor General Antonio Nachura said it will be the Pasay court that will determine the fairness of the compensation to be awarded Piatco.

TONGA'S King Tupou IV is seen in Washington in this Feb. 2, 1983 file photo.

[illegible]

maintained a well-loved figure in most Tongans.

This was evident when Tupou returned home briefly for his 88th birthday celebrations on July 4, after spending most of the past year in New Zealand hunting for ill health. He was forced to cancel most of the events held to celebrate.

During his illness, much of the royal power passed to his eldest son, 38-year-old Crown Prince Tupouto'a and daughter Princess Pilolevu Tuita.

Both are controversial figures due to their stranglehold on some of the country's biggest businesses and lavish lifestyles which contrast to the poverty of most Tongans.

Protests and strikes

Tupou is to remain the island's only power company, brewery, airline and mobile phone company. Pilolevu has made a fortune from leasing out valuable satellite transponder slots over Tonga.

As undercurrents of resentment against the royal dominance of business emerged during pro-democracy protests last year which culminated in a six-week public service strike.

During the strike, a royal house and government cars were torched, school classrooms wrecked and a postal branch thrown at a house owned by business partners of the crown prince.

AFP

Aplus METRO
Edna Ester G. Dipasupil

Wild ride turns tragic for teenager

Girl dies after falling off seat in amusement park

By Jocelyn R. Uy

A BOUT 10 FUN THRILL TRAGIC RIDES A 13-year-old girl accidentally fell to her death from a height of 20 feet while riding in one of the attractions at a Pasay City amusement park at around 11:30 p.m. Saturday.

The victim was identified as Rachel Gem Solis, a resident of Dapdapan Street in Tondo, Manila. She fell from one of the big boats on the Wild River ride, one of the attractions at Star City at the Cultural Center of the Philippines complex on Roxas Boulevard.

Sherinder Marcial, Solis's friend, told the police the victim suddenly felt dizzy and stood up from her seat while they were at the ride's highest point.

"The victim was thrown out of the boat and fell on the ground," investigator PO1 Reynaldo Aguha said in his report.

Solis was rushed to the San Juan De Dios hospital where Dr. Reginaldo Pumpit declared her dead on arrival at 12:42 a.m. yesterday. Her injuries, according to Aguha, included a fractured left thigh, lacerations on her chin and a hematoma on her chest.

The police have yet to determine whether or not the establishment should be held liable for Solis's accident as the incident is still under investigation.

In a statement, Star Parks Corp., which manages the amusement park, said that "the accident that occurred is not in any way the result of any mechanical defect in the ride."

It added that it was still gathering details about the incident.

"Star City deeply regrets the incident and assures the victim's family of its full assistance," the company said.

Court recommends filing of libel charges vs actress Claudine Barretto

By DJ Yap and Rhyzel San Diego Jr.

A QUEZON CITY PROSECUTOR HAS found probable cause to indict TV and movie star Claudine Barretto for **branding magazine editor JoAnn Maglipon an irresponsible journalist and human rights violator last year.**

Assistant prosecutor Roberto Lazarowe Cleto-Cheng recommended the filing of three counts of libel against the actress in the Quezon City Regional Trial Court.

In a resolution dated Aug. 28, Cheng said Barretto's statements in the press in July last year—particularly in the tabloids People's Tonight and People's Journal, as well as TV network GMA-7, effectively believed that Maglipon was not only unfair and irresponsible but had also violated her human rights.

Maglipon is the editor in chief of *Yes!* Magazine and the executive editor of *Hi!* Magazine.

Sought for comment, Barretto's lawyer, Raymund Fortun said that his client has two legal options.

"First, she can petition for a review at the Department of Justice. If granted, the case will be dismissed. Another option is for her to move to suspend the criminal procedure because the issues tackled in Ms. Maglipon's libel case are identical to the ones discussed in Ms. Barretto's civil case for damages] against Ms. Maglipon," he told the Inquirer in a phone interview. Overall, "we are not concerned about this new development," Fortun added.

The case against Barretto stemmed from statements that she made after she sued Maglipon for allegedly using her photos without her consent and publishing stories that cast her in a bad light.

The actress had said: "For the past several years, I have been the victim of unfair and irresponsible journalism in violation of my and my family's basic human rights ... I have sued (Maglipon) to compensate me for the pain and suffering she has caused me and my loved ones. ..."

On July 22, 2005, the actress asked a Quezon City court to "convene session" Maglipon from getting

CONTI. A2 ›

WANT TO TRY A CONVENIENT WAY TO SEND MONEY ABROAD?

WESTERN UNION

With the Western Union SEND-MONEY-ABROAD Service, you can send money beyond banking hours and on weekends!* What's more, with over 245,000 agent locations abroad, there's likely to be one near your receiver.**

I'd rather die than lose honor

ON TARGET

Ramon Tulfo

FOR MANY YEARS I HAVE championed the cause of the oppressed and people in distress.

I never thought that one day I would be the one in distress. The table would be turned around.

Now I know how it feels to be oppressed.

Yesterday, I was about to go on the air again at a radio station with my public service program, "Sumbong mo kay Tulfo."

Twenty minutes before the show, the station management called me to say to my camera crew beholden to the Fine Family.

I got the message: I didn't go ahead with my maiden broadcast.

I didn't want to put the station in a situation where it would have to choose between me and Fina Enrile-Sarmiento, Jose Miguel Arroyo.

We case, he would put pressure on the station as he did on the owner of the last radio station I worked with.

Before I was accepted by that station, I had talked to a bigwig of a much bigger, more popular station.

The bigwig said he was taking me in, only to tell us days later his station had no place for my program.

I was naive to think that since that station was big, it could not be pushed around.

"Tengo ka pala, Mon, eh no let alone na intelligent ang mga Arroyo? (You're so stupid, Mon! Don't you know that station was Mike Arroyo's property)" said a friend.

I'm hearing the mass brickbats to come my way as well as my brothers Erwin and Raffy.

After the libel and extortion cases, the police are preparing more serious cases against us.

Erwin said some sources in the police told him that charges were being prepared against us for drug trafficking and car theft.

You remember that drug market within spitting distance from the Pasay City Hall the police raided a few months ago?

The raid was based on information Erwin and I gave the police.

For that feat, the Philippine National Police awarded Erwin and I the Distinguished Service Medal.

Some policemen, Erwin was told, were assigned to "gather" evidence to link us to a drug syndicate.

Another group of law enforcers has been tasked to link us to a car theft syndicate, so a car theft case could be filed against us.

A close friend advised me to leave the country until the situation cools down.

Nice or things could happen to me, he warned.

I have had sleepless nights over my friend's advice, but I have decided to stay.

Flight would be an admission I did wrong.

I'd rather die than lose honor.

A POLICEMAN points to a gap in the door of a cell in Caloocan City through which five prisoners escaped yesterday. The inmates removed one of the steel bars and then wriggled out of the gap after spreading butter on their bodies.

5 Caloocan inmates escape

By Nancy C. Carvajal

FIVE INMATES ESCAPED YESTERDAY from the Northern Police District (NPD) detention cell in Caloocan City by spreading butter on their bodies to allow them to slip through a gap in the door of their cell.

Chief Supt. Leopoldo Bataoil, NPD director, identified the escapees as Rizaldo Sampang, Marvin Robin, Agustin Cruzano, Salvador Esperon and Ramon Villafuer.

The five were arrested on charges of robbery and physical injuries. The suspects were the only detainees at the NPD jail in Langaray, Caloocan City, at the time of the escape.

Bataoil said the five took advantage of a heavy downpour to commit it a.m. yesterday to remove one of the bars in the door of their cell.

Investigators later found two butter wrappers in the cell, leading them to speculate that the inmates could have spread the substance all over their bodies to allow them to slip through the gap in the door.

Following the incident, Bataoil ordered the immediate relief of Supt. Rhoanne Ibbarra, head of the NPD District Investigation Unit (DIU).

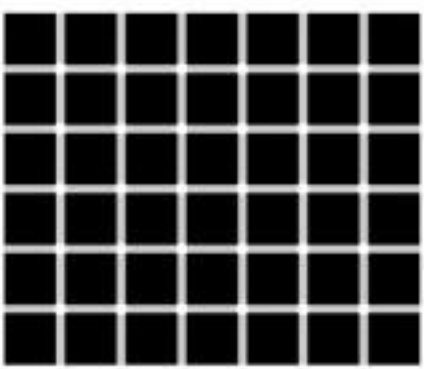
"He was replaced on the principle of command responsibility," Bataoil said.

Supt. Ninh Bhoxuong, who heads the District's Intelligence and Investigation Division (DIID), was appointed officer in charge of the DIU for the duration of the investigation of the incident.

DID YOU KNOW

THE METROPOLITAN Manila Development Authority (MMDA) was created in 1995 by Republic Act 7924 to coordinate the delivery of basic services to the National Capital Region like transportation and traffic management, solid waste disposal, flood control and sewerage management, sanitation and public safety. A P1-billion fund was initially authorized for the agency's operations. The MMDA is headed by Bayani Fernando, a presidential appointee.

Cyril L. Bonalbon, Inquirer Research



Advertise on print. The results may be quite moving.

Believe in the power of print.
UNITED PRINT MEDIA GROUP
UPMG

Parents want 'interim board' appointed to run IS Manila

By Dante L. Lucas

PARENT-STAKEHOLDERS OF THE International School Manila (ISM) in Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City plan to install an interim board to oversee the affairs of the school after successfully ousting members of the board of trustees to resign last week.

A statement from so-called "sustaining members" of the school said the interim board "will work as a bare minimum transition of the crisis until an election can be held and a new set of officers can be installed."

The resignation of members of the board, headed by Beatriz Gibbs V. Benavides, had prompted a vote of no confidence as well as legal action to unseat them by stakeholders who claimed to have gathered the required number of votes to force them out of office.

"Over 945 out of 1,200 families of the ISM community have signed petition for the removal of the board of trustees, joined by 226 faculty and staff, as well as all seven members of the leadership team in the school," the statement said.

The crisis began after the board of directors fired superintendent David Thaw two weeks ago. The board has declined to discuss the reasons for the move, citing a policy that board members not to talk about board matters. However, a board insider told the business that reports about Thaw's being in control out of ISM by armed men and the taking of his car were "false and malicious."

The firing of Thaw led to a walkout last Thursday by many ISM teachers and staff who called for the board's resignation.

An ISM parent, who requested that his name be withheld because he was not authorized to speak for the group, revealed that the interim board—if approved by the group—will serve only until May 2007 when the next regular board elections are scheduled to be held.

"There will be a clear statement that those that served in the interim board cannot run for the 2007 board," the parent said in an e-mail sent to the business. He said the interim board will be composed of "high-ranking individuals" principally from "sustaining members" of the IS community. Sustaining members refer to "corporations and institutions that have supported IS in significant ways since the school started."

The proposed board include Chevron Philippines country chair Randy Johnson, Citigroup Philippine country officer Sandy Wiles, United Nations Communicity Association director Byoung Hyun Suh, HV Technologies Inc. president and CEO Ernesto Ou, Swedish Ambassador to Manila Annika Markovic, Bank of the Philippine Islands president Aurelio Montinola III, American Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines president Fredrick M. Bunice, Delfino Inc. vice-president Margarita Delgado, UK Embassy deputy chief of mission Paul W. Jones and AGB director general for Central and West Asia expand de velopment Juan Hinestrosa.

In the e-mailed statement, the ISM parents added that the group had not yet decided on whether or not to evaluate Thaw.

Waiting sheds next target of MMDA clearing operations

By Tarra Y. Quismundo

INSTEAD OF FOCUSING ON TOPSIDERS: billboards, the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) will be setting its sights a little bit lower this time.

MMDA Chair Bayani Fernando yesterday said the agency will crack down next on waiting sheds—located mainly on EDSA and other major thoroughfares—where advertising signs have been installed in spite of the resolutions.

"We have yet to set the date but we are going to remove these waiting sheds. If the law says no commercial advertisement should be on the road right-of-way, then we should also remove them," Fernando said.

MMDA General Manager Robert Sacramento said they have already notified the private firm that put up the waiting sheds about the move. He added that the firm has until Sept. 15 to take down the structures before the MMDA starts clearing operations.

"It would be a shame for us not to remove them when we have been dismantling other billboards encroaching on the road. We will see if they comply [with the notice], then we'll see when we will begin to remove the waiting sheds," Fernando added. Sacramento said the MMDA operation against illegally-placed billboards have been ongoing, though advertising firms "are replenishing them as much as we are removing them."

Outdoor advertising firms, meanwhile, expressed support for the government's crackdown on illegal billboards, particularly those which encroach on the road right of way.

"We encourage that 100 percent. We are done it. In fact, even without government intervention, we implement regulations through our grievance committee and we terminate the membership of those who do not comply with our code of ethics and [government regulations]," Outdoor Advertising Association of the Philippines (OAAP) chair Carla Llave said.

The organization also called on the government to consider including the OAAP in the process of approving applications for the installation of billboard frames.

An OAAP endorsement, said Llave, would ensure that the organization has independently checked on applying firm's submitted plans against government regulations and the association's code of ethics to provide a system of check and balance.

Court . . .

From page A-19

within 250 meters of her, claiming the editor had published unauthorized photographs of her in unjustified manners and had written unfavorable articles against her.

Magbuyo was assisted by filing seven counts of libel against Barreto in three separate courts. He said she was compelled to file charges to prevent further repression as a journalist.

The WORLD

Editor Lawrence B. Olanio

WORLDBRIEFS

Afghan death toll reaches 100

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan — Nato air strikes and artillery have killed a further 50 suspected Taliban fighters, the alliance reported on Monday, pushing its total up to more than 100 since it launched its biggest offensive against the rebels last week. The latest deaths came as Nato-led troops battled militants in the southern province of Kandahar on Sunday. The casualties in the province's Panjwayi and Shah districts were in addition to 94 militants Nato had already reported as dying in a clash earlier that day. AP

Hurricane bears down on Bermuda

HAMILTON, Bermuda — Hurricane Florence headed toward Bermuda where some hotels prepared "hurricane parties" for tourists and officials urged islanders to take shelter as fierce, saying the storm could test the resilience of the wealthy British territory. Florence intensified into the second hurricane of the Atlantic season on Sunday, forcing disruptions and inconvenience to Bermuda's tourist industry as residents and visitors alike boarded up windows and doors. One island hotel even posted a sign: "We've gone away to share away. Come back Tuesday." AP

Angry reception for Blair in Lebanon

BEIRUT, Lebanon — Hundreds of protesters gathered in downtown Beirut on Monday as British Prime Minister Tony Blair entered to a massive anti-American security operation, underscoring the deep mistrust in Lebanon toward the United States over its backing for Israel's bloody blitz. The parliament speaker, a close ally of Hezbollah who was supposed to meet with Blair, left town in an apparent snub to the first British leader to visit Lebanon. The country's most senior Shiite Muslim cleric said the best Blair could do was apologize for the deaths of hundreds of Lebanese civilians during the 34-day fighting between Israel and Hezbollah guerrillas. Blair's arrival was also overshadowed by comments by the United States' ambassador to Lebanon, who said Washington would not be deterred by violent protests against Blair's support for Israel's assault in its war on Hezbollah. AP

Saddam back on dock for genocide

BAGHDAD, Iraq — The second trial of Saddam Hussein, on charges of genocide in connection with a crackdown on Kurds, resumed Monday after a 10-day hiatus with the former Iraqi leader in the courtroom. Saddam and six co-defendants face a possible death penalty for the killings of tens of thousands of Kurds during the Anfal campaign, a massive military assault in northern Iraq in the 1980s. AP

Spectacular landing in Montreal

MONTREAL — One of Montreal's major thoroughfares was turned into an impromptu runway when a small plane was forced to land minutes from the downtown core. No one was injured. The pilot of the sightseeing plane brought the aircraft down on Pare Avenue, one of the city's busier south-south arteries, after the engine cut out during an aerial tour of the city. Eyewitness Jeffrey Hall said the plane appeared to be flying normally before it suddenly lost power. The pilot managed to glide the aircraft to a safe landing between two lanes of traffic. AP

Fake royal wedding

TOKYO — A fairy story ended behind bars for a Japanese couple on Monday when they were jailed for staging an elaborate fake royal wedding to enthrall guests. Yasuyuki Kitano and Mayumi Sakamoto, both in their 40s, invited hundreds of guests, including Japanese celebrities, to a wedding reception in 2003, saying that Kitano was a member of a defunct branch of the Imperial family. Guests at Japanese weddings traditionally bring with them gifts of at least 30,000 yen ($280) in cash. Pictures shown on television at the time showed billionaire in the "publicity" 10-layered kimono worn by women of the imperial household on formal occasions. Kyodo

US welcomes Iran freeze of uranium enrichment

VIENNA, AUSTRIA—A SENIOR US ENVOY ON MONDAY WELCOMED progress at talks meant to defuse a standoff over Iran's nuclear defiance, but said the UN Security Council still intended to "move forward" toward sanctions if Tehran refuses to freeze uranium enrichment.

Gregory L. Schulte, the chief delegate to the International Atomic Energy Agency spoke after revelations that Iran is ready to consider complying—at least temporarily—with a UN Security Council demand that it freeze uranium enrichment.

"It's encouraging that progress was made," Schulte told reporters before the IAEA 35-nation board session that will focus on Iran later in the week. "But what are need... is suspension. We will be looking to see how forward to the Security Council with the unanimous regime orders Iran responds."

The board was responsible for moving Iran's nuclear file to the UN Security Council early this year, and the United States and its allies have regularly used its sessions to take Tehran to task for what they say are secret attempts to build a nuclear weapon.

The board will have a report from IAEA head Mohamed ElBaradei that essentially says Iran has stalemated a more than three-year investigation of its suspicious activities by the UN nuclear watchdog. ElBaradei may also warn that economic sanctions—one possible lever being considered by the Security Council to enforce a demand Tehran freeze enrichment—could lead Iran to prohibit further inspections by his experts.

But Iran's suggestion that it is ready to consider complying—at least temporarily—with a UN Security Council demand that it freeze enrichment is likely to take some pressure off the Islamic republic when the board takes up its case later in the week.

Before Monday's opening session, a diplomat from a board member country said the European Union—whose foreign policy chief, Javier Solana, was instrumental in coaxing Iran to compromise—has prepared a "moderate" statement on Iran and its tactics of defiance.

The diplomat asked for anonymity in exchange for sharing confidential information. He also said the six Security Council nations and Germany were considering a joint statement.

But that could be difficult, considering that Russia, China and some reportedly France oppose to be opposed to a push by the United States and Britain for a quick move to UN sanctions.

Another diplomat said he knew of any extra measures would be determined by when Solana tells those six countries later in the day in a conference call on progress made at his weekend Vienna talks with chief Iranian nuclear negotiator Ali Larijani. AP

Mahathir: Gov't bribing party mates to defeat him

KUALA LUMPUR—FORMER MALAYSIAN Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad on Monday accused the government of bribing ruling party members to defeat him in party polls, and warned that his "big mouth" would not stop criticizing the current leader and his family.

In some of his most combative statements since starting a one-man antigovernment campaign about a year ago, Mahathir also challenged Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi to resign.

"Either he charges or he steps down," Mahathir, 81, told reporters. Otherwise, "the only way they can stop me is to throw me in jail," said Mahathir, who gave up power in October 2003 after 22 years as prime minister.

Mahathir accuses Abdullah—the man he had handpicked to lead Malaysia—of mismanaging the country, compromising national integrity and honor, and allowing his son and son-in-law to benefit from government contracts.

Abdullah denies the charges, and the senior Cabinet has ordered a criminal probe. Their plans to file a lawsuit, a renewed elder statesman, to end the dispute have fallen on deaf ears and raised fears that it could split the ruling United Malays National Organization party.

Mahathir's credibility suffered a dramatic blow on Saturday when he failed to win election as one of seven delegates representing the Kubang Pasu district at Umno's annual congress in November. Kubang Pasu is in Mahathir's home state, Kedah, and is considered his stronghold.

Mahathir's plan was to give a speech at the congress to take his fight into the heart of the ruling party.

Mahathir will still be invited to the congress as a former party president, but the right to give a speech is typically limited to current top officebearers and delegates representing Umno's more than 2,000 local divisions.

Despite the election loss, "I am not going to stop exposing this government's misdeeds," Mahathir earlier told a few dozen supporters at his office. "The enemy is clear on our list. I have got a big mouth. I am going to use this big mouth."

Mahathir claimed he had the election because party members in Kubang Pasu were bribed and persuaded by the government to vote against him. He said each delegate was given 100 ringgit ($26.83) and a list of candidates they should vote for, but didn't offer any proof. AP

ANNOUNCEMENT

TAKE A STAND.
SUBSCRIBE TODAY.

Still fence-sitting on whether you should subscribe to the Philippine Daily Inquirer or not? Take a stand and subscribe. Call us now and free yourself from the hassles of getting a copy of the Inquirer, and have it delivered to your doorstep **AT NO EXTRA CHARGE.** Plus, get **FREE** monthly issues of Just Shop, Junior Inquirer, Inquirer Golf and Inquirer Badminton.

Just choose from any of the following subscription plans:

SUBSCRIPTION 1	SUBSCRIPTION 2	SUBSCRIPTION 3
360 issues	180 issues	90 issues
+22 issues FREE/year	+10 issues FREE/year	+4 issues FREE/year
SAVE P396!	**SAVE P180!**	**SAVE P72!**

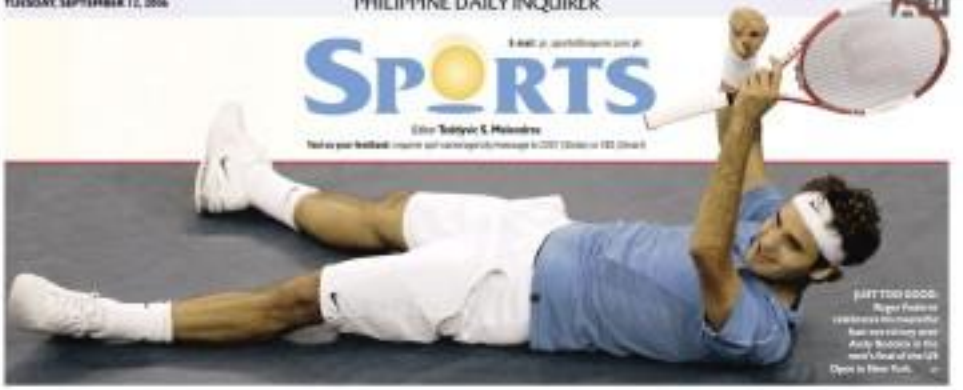
You can pay for any subscription plan by cash, MasterCard, or VISA! Go ahead, take a stand.

The Philippine Daily Inquirer delivers.

Call 896-6000 to subscribe!

Open to Metro Manila residents only.

SPORTS
Editor Tonipet S. Melendrez



JUST TOO GOOD: Roger Federer celebrates his majestic ban over victory over Andy Roddick in the semifinal of the US Open in New York. —

3 crowns for King Roger

Federer destroys Roddick for 3rd straight US Open title

NEW YORK—THIS US OPEN WAS ALL ABOUT THE greats of the game, from Andre Agassi's tearful farewell, to the renaming of the site to honor Billie Jean King, to Martina Navratilova's this-time-she-means-it retirement.

It was only fitting, then, that the tournament's final point was won by Roger Federer.

After all, by beating Andy Roddick, 6-2, 6-7(5), 7-5, 6-1, Sunday for a third consecutive championship at Flushing Meadows, Federer took another step toward being regarded as the best tennis player in history.

With his arm pal Tiger Woods sitting in the front row, Federer won his third Grand Slam title of the year and the ninth of his career, moving closer to Pete Sampras' record of 14. After the match, Federer and Woods cracked open two bottles of Dom Perignon in the locker room.

"I'm shocked myself how well it's been going the last three, four years," Federer said. "Being not only compared to former great tennis players, but even especially also other great athletes all over sports. It's just really nice."

If there's any athlete in the world who knows exactly how Federer feels as he dominates his peers and gobbles up Grand Slams, it's Woods.

They met for the first time before the match, and Federer then set out to top his counterpart. Federer out-aced the big-serving Roddick 37-7, compiled a 69-53 edge in winners, and made only 19 unforced errors.

"When I go out there and I see Tiger sitting there, it's like, I try to play well, you know? I try to kind of get my act together and focus and get off to a good start," Federer said.

And he did precisely that, racing to a 3-0 lead in 27 minutes. He finished strong, too, winning eight of the last nine games against Roddick, who won the 2003 US Open but now is 1-11 against the man he once was supposed to rival for supremacy in this sport.

Best player in the game

"Roger is at the top and he's the only person at the top, regardless of how fanciful people want to make rivalry comparisons and this, that and the other," Roddick said. "He's the best player in the game. There's no question in my mind."

The No. 1-ranked Federer went 25-1 at this year's Grand Slam tournaments, the only setback coming against Rafael Nadal in the French Open final. Federer became the first man since Ivan Lendl in 1985-87 to win three consecutive US Open titles—and the only man in tennis history to win Wimbledon and the US Open both so-called three years in a row.

He's even nine of the last 14 Grand Slams, dating to Wimbledon in 2004.

TIGER Woods and his wife Elin Nordegren watch the US Open final in the front row of the Billie Jean King stands, reacting for his pal Roger Federer. Woods later opened two bottles of champagne for the champ. —AFP

"I've been on a ridiculous 56, and I am surprised how well it went, but at the same time I know I've given myself the best possible chance," Federer said.

Federer spoke last week about wanting to get to know Woods. It finally happened Sunday, thanks to their shared management agency.

Woods and Federer have much in common. Both successfully hit their stride more of their foes would try, and they're at their best when it matters most. Federer is 8-for-10 in major finals, the best set equivalent in tennis to Woods' 12-0 mark when leading going into the last round of a major.

"More and more often, over the last years or so, I've been kind of compared to Tiger... what he's doing on the golf course, me doing on the tennis court," Federer said. "I asked him how it was for him. Many things were similar. We know exactly how I kind of felt on the court."

Woods and his wife Elin Nordegren sat between Federer's girlfriend and his agent. AP

falling hair?

The Solution: Mane 'n Tail
now with 33% more value FREE

Hairloss Makes You Lose More Than Just Hair

When you're bald, you don't just lose hair. You lose much more. Your assertiveness fades, your confidence wanes, you feel depressed and you end up miserable. Bring back all that you've lost with Svenson's **Cosmetic Transdermal Reconstruction**. Virtually undetectable, it restores the natural volume and thickness of your hair so it looks, moves and feels real. At Svenson, you'll regain your confidence and recover everything you thought was gone — and more!

Trust only the expert in hair recovery. Call us now.

Svenson
Find Your Hairless Misery Today

CALL 892-HAIR (4247)

MAKATI | TOMAS MORATO | ORTIGAS | ALABANG | CEBU

THAILAND GAMES

SEAG wushu events cut down to 12

By Marc Anthony Reyes

THERE IS A STRONG CHANCE that the country's native martial arts event will make a return to the fourteen Asian Games next year in Thailand.

But there's a trade-off—one that will hurt the new SP campaign—as the SEAG Federation slashed the events to number to 12, from 22 in Manila, during a recent meeting.

The Philippines won 11 of 22 events in wushu, which became the country's most productive sports association in its maiden SEAG overall triumph, to rule second-based three-golds-in-six debut last year.

The SEAG Federation is also considering the addition of body building, squash, softball, chess and tug of war to the Games' 32 regular events.

As in the Philippine edition last year, there will be 441 events in the Thailand SEAG, although there will only be 40 sports disciplines on tap, compared with the 41 in Manila.

The Philippines, which won 113 gold medals last year, also managed to gain approval for the postponed events in archery and the reinstitution of the rare golds in duathlon.

Thailand will stage the fifth Games in different cities including Bangkok, Nakhon Ratchasima and Chonburi, in 1995, the 22nd city of Calung Ha hosted the Games.

President Jose "Peping" Cojuangco headed the POC team that included Ding Tanjuatco, Go Teng Kok and Inday Ancheta during the council meeting held in Penang.

PEDRO Quiñones in course to the 2001 SEAG gold in the marquee event.

THE FORD FOCUS COMES WITH A 5-YEAR WARRANTY

The country's most extensive warranty is still on. Major mechanical and electrical parts such as engine, aircon and transmission are covered. It all adds up to P35,000.00 warranty value. Choose between Ghia, Trend and Sport. Still built with the same toughness and quality you've always associated with our name.

MONTHLY PAYMENT PLANS START AT P19K.*

Prices start at P759K

NCAA stars to play vs Malaysian quint

By Marc Anthony Reyes

NCAA BASKETBALL IS SOME international sweat this year.

An All-Star squad will be sent by the NCAA to play a series of exhibition games against the Malaysian national squad in Kuala Lumpur this coming 26 invitation by the Malaysian Basketball Association, league officials said yesterday.

The NCAA management committee plans to choose nine players from each of the eight member schools to challenge the Malaysian team.

The offer to host the NCAA stars came from Fiba-Asia secretary general Datuk Chris Sheik of Malaysia through NCAA management committee chair Bernie Atienza when they met during the recent world basketball federation (Fiba) congress in Saitama, Japan.

Atienza said the exhibition games may be held in November, a month after the close of the NCAA season, to give this prospective players a chance to clear their schedule with their respective schools.

The original invitation, according to Atienza, was for St. Benilde, the host of the ongoing NCAA season.

But the Blazers may not be the right choice to represent the country in the exhibition series, having lost 11 of their 14 elimination games this season to finish last.

Malaysia has been a threat in Southeast Asian Games basketball, having won the crown over the Philippines in the 1989 edition held in Kuala Lumpur.

Bono, Intal lead MVP derby

By Jaymie M. Reyes

RED BONO OF Adamson and JC Intal of Ateneo emerged as leaders in the race for the Most Valuable Player award going into the final four of the UAAP men's basketball tournament.

"We are thinking when it (the MVP vote)," said Bono. "There's still a playoff for the third spot and the Final Four. I have to continue working hard."

Bono averaged to league-leading 21.6 points and a second-best 12.1 rebounds per game to rule the statistical race on 716 17 points.

The flashy Intal, last season's No. 17 scorer, amassed 719 points, 7.6 rebounds and a second-best 4.4 assists per outing.

Behind the freakishly-tall Intal, the Eagles snapped up the eliminations round at 12-2 to claim the top spot and the twice-to-beat advantage in the Final Four.

Intal was a rookie forward when the Eagles bagged the championship in 2002.

Coach Leo Austria credited Bono for powering the Falcons to their first Final 4 stint since 1994, when the league adopted the format.

Rookie center Jervy Cruz of the Saints Eomas Tigers ranks third with a 16.92 statistical score by averaging 16.2 points, a league best 11.6 rebounds and 1.1 blocks per game.

Ateneo point guard Mon-ved Cruz of Davao City of the Philippines completed 162 points by leading in assists (7.6 apg, on topof 16.6 points, 7.5 boards and 4.8 assists per contest.

Rounding out the top 10 were Doug Kramer of Ateneo (68.17), ADV Chan of the far Eastern Universities (68.00), Bradford Custodio of the second-ranked University of the East Warriors (57.03), Ichete scorer of the National Bulldogs (57.17), FEU's Jonas Villanueva (55.58) and UE's Mark Barkeyn (52.25).

UST point guard Jaype Crawford is ranked at 6.3 apg while Ellone Fajardo of UE runs top shot blocker with a 2.1 average.

Schuma Ferrari

HONDA, TOKYO—NOW THAT MICHAEL SCHUMACHER has retirement, he's in the middle of a championship

Schumacher's Italian Grand Prix victory on Sunday moved the Ferrari driver within two points of season leader Fernando Alonso.

There were winners—in China, Japan and Brazil—for Schumacher to gain an eighth title before he quits.

"To all intents and purposes, the world championship starts here," said the 36-year-old, engineering chief of Alonso's Renault team.

Schumacher ended months of speculation by announcing after Sun-

Caging panel holds key meeting

WITH NO PESCENT of the new cage body's constitution and bylaws already complete, the three-man panel will meet to discuss details, including the names of the councilors.

The choice of candidates for the cage body would take up most of the time of the panel—composed of Basketball Association of the Philippines' Jerry Lim, Ateneo director of Philippine Basketball, and otherwise ignorant Manuel V. Pangilinan.

"I envision that MVP (Pangilinan) will have names to suggest. Good," Manong Gaudillo

2nd Abalos Cup lures top netters

THE COUNTRY'S LEADing tennis players will put action in the P500,000 Abalos Cup slated Sept. 23-4 at the NCSSM-Mandaluyong Tennis Club court in Mandaluyong City. Mandaluyong Mayor Benjamin Abalos, Jr. announced Monday.

Aspirants in the singles and doubles divisions in the Open and "Tuesday, in separate tilts to have a tough challenger from Patricia Jude Tiano, Anna Alcasid, Fernando Raul S., and Joseph Victorino. The Mandaluyong Tennis Club is also hosting a junior tournament for two weekends and an All-Mandaluyong Junior event. For registration, call tournament coordinator Cornelio Baltazar Cagampan (SEC / 13 EXPO; Cynthia Tolpa (SEC / 2000SPICE) or Ace Ocon (SEC / SPEXPO).

RACING Tips

BY TOP CHOICE

Government Warning: Cigarette sm

cher retires; taps Kimi

SCHUMACHER glides to victory at the Italian GP. A-2

...Turkey and finished ninth Another after dropping several positions be... an unscheduled pit stop near the end of the race.

McLaren-Mercedes' Kimi Raikkonen, who finished second Sunday, will replace Schumacher at Ferrari next season.

"Michael has known for many, many months, so I should say for one year, that the choice was to partner him with (Kimi) Raikkonen," said Ferrari president Jean Montezemolo.

But the Ferrari boss was adamant his team would reserve from the loss of Schumacher with the arrival of Raikkonen.

"I think when you change and lose the best driver in the world, there is a risk," said Montezemolo. "Having said that, I think Raikkonen is, as the...

...temperament, combust, maturity, experience—despite his 25 years of age—can represent, a good choice for Ferrari."

Klimax reserve on "intriguing battle with Raikkonen," stating "he's just so young and coming as I am."

"I will always be part of the Ferrari family," Schumacher said.

The 37-year-old Schumacher will retire with every major record in Formula One. His seven titles are more than Juan Manuel Fangio's five.

"He sets us...if I'm lacking anything," he said. "Might as well leave while I'm still at the top level." AP

Furyk takes Canadian as Rose wilts

ANCASTER, CANADA—CHAMPION CLEVELAND Jim Furyk fired a final round of five under par 65 here Sunday to enter the US$5-million Canadian Open on Dutch rookie Joost Luiten (below).

Furyk, who entered the day two shots behind England's Ryan...finished with a 14-under 266, one shot in front of fellow Americans Bart Bryant...

Americans Jonathan Byrd and Scott Piercy both posted 66s to share third at 268.

Furyk, who...will be playing in the Ryder Cup in Ireland in two weeks, claimed his second title of 2006 and the 12th of his career.

Heading in the World Match Play Champ... champ in England, before coming on to the K Club for the Ryder Cup, Furyk earned $900,000.

Rose (see inverse leading finishing at 17 year-old amateur in the 1998 British Open, fired a 74 but left him tied for 14th at 272. ... AFP

noking is dangerous to your health.

Kerr foils Annika

...Oklahoma—Cristie Kerr outdueled Swedish superstar Annika Sorenstam two days in a row the nine-million dollar LPGA Ham... from Lloyd Classic.

Kerr outdueled a pair of late birdies on consecutive holes to close under par 68 and a 13-under total of 199 in the 54-hole tournament.

She finished two shots in front of Sorenstam. The Swede, the defending champion, managed just four birdies in a 69 and a 11-under total of 201.

"It's the most satisfying feeling in the world," Kerr said.

Karl Lind fired a one-over 67 for the second round, sending the manager that Sorenstam did not have this title was just not.

Kerr outdueled all four of her birdies on the back nine to make up seven shots and take home first prize of $150,000.

Lorena Ochoa fired a 66 and finished third at 203. AFP

RP jins vying in W. Cup

MANILA—The Philippine SEA... national underwater... team has another big test in preparation for the Subic Asian games when it competes in the 2006 World Cup championships to be held from 11-18 in Bangkok, Thailand.

According to Philippines Underwater Association president Ramon R. Arcenegui, the 18-man squad will be among the top 32 underwater countries to vie for honors in the event.

The Philippines is always considered to be among the top contenders in the World Cup, with PSN vice president Jong Chua Tiong. Five years ago, the Filipinos bagged one silver and three bronze medals in the same tournament.

Twelve players and three officials make up the RP squad which is supported by the PSC, Petron and Accel.

Those are:
Men—Jamil Paul Lopez, Dominador Go, Edward Hearn Jr., Alexander Gamus, Lionel Jan B. del Rio, Kevin Roch Alcaraz—Alex Valenzuela Evasco, Nathaniel Gordon Perez, Rey Dimalig Tomas and Nicholas Tomalas. The officials are Stephen Fernandez and Roberto Cruz.
Women are Dr. Ramon Arcenegui, Ma. Cristina Alcaraz, Ma. Victoria Tomas, Ma. Victoria Tomas, Ma. Victoria Tomas

Simply the most luxurious in its class.

Luxurious Leather Captain Seats and Trims. Equipped with Driver/Front Passenger Airbags and ABS

The NEW

INNOVA V

ABS

D-4D

WT-i

GREAT VALUE! Innova E 2.0 Diesel Automatic Now Available!

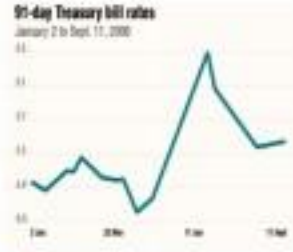
TOYOTA

moving forward

BUSINESS

Editor Raoul D. Pharoan • Assistant Editor Cicero S. Harkema

Yields of longer term T-bills fall



Treasury allows 91-day rate to rise slightly to 5.381%

By Michelle V. Rosco

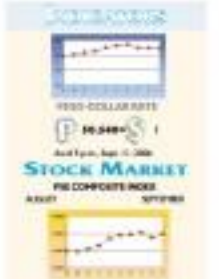
THE BENCHMARK 91-DAY TREASURY BILL RATE INCHED UP slightly yesterday to 5.439 percent, countering the decline in the yields of the other short-term government securities, as investors shifted appetite to higher-yielding instruments.

The new rate for the three-month debt paper was 5.6 basis points higher than the 5.381 percent recorded in the last auction two weeks ago. (One percentage point is equivalent to 100 basis points.)

"The market has found the yield for the 91-day bills too low," National Treasurer Omar Cruz said in a briefing after the auction yesterday. He admitted the 91-day bill rate could have already reached bottom two weeks ago.

Bids for the 91-day bills amounted to P5.46-

YIELDS/ B6



(See stock market report on Page B3)

Stocks end higher

SHARE PRICES CLOSED 0.36-PERCENT higher yesterday on support for select blue-chips, dealers said.

They said a continued drop in crude oil prices buoyed investor sentiment although hoping interest rate would be raised weeks on the board or market looks overbought after this month's fifth.

The composite index was up 25.74 points at 3,486.78. Yesterday's high, it touched a low of 3,478.04.

The broader all-shares index rose 7.48 points to 1,484.88.

However, the market's breadth was negative with losers outpacing gainers 86 to 81, while 67 issues were unchanged.

Turnover was 2.59 billion shares worth P1.16 billion.

Harry Liu of Summit Securities said "the market is very cautious in pushing prices higher after the record run-up which was backed."

The main index gained 2.1 percent last week, supported by the peso's strength and an improved economic and fiscal outlook. BIT

IN THIS ISSUE

BREAKTIME
■ Fungal inspection /B2
■ Japan-RP pact seen to boost country's GDP /B3
■ Gold falls below $600 /B4
■ Net FDI inflows hit $996M /B6

Gov't debt at ₱3.998T in June

THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT'S outstanding debt dropped slightly to P3.998 trillion as of end-June this year on the improving fiscal condition reflected in the lower new and provided funds to pay more maturing obligations.

If divided among the country's estimated population of 85 million, the share of each Filipino in the government's debt burden stood at P47,041.

The Bureau of the Treasury reported that the latest debt figure was 0.5-percent lower than the P4.017-trillion in end-May.

Of the end-June figure, P2.16 trillion was composed of liabilities from local creditors while P1.84 trillion were sourced from foreign lenders. The government has adopted the policy of borrowing more from domestic sources to keep itself from too much exposure to foreign exchange risks.

Domestic borrowings are done either through direct loans or the issuance of government securities such as Treasury bills and bonds.

Foreign borrowings are done through the flotation of sovereign bonds or through official development assistance from multilateral and bilateral agencies. The Philippine government's biggest sources of ODA are the Japan Bank for International Cooperation, the Asian Development Bank and the World Bank.

The drop in domestic debt had to do partly with the move of the Treasury to cancel several auctions because of the government's declining borrowing requirements. Auctions for P163 billion worth of treasury bills and bonds were canceled in June.

Fiscal authorities have set an official target of reducing the government's budget deficit to P323 billion this year from last year's P146.6 billion. They said, however, that the actual deficit for the year might even be lower than the target because of improving revenue collection and tight spending.

At the January-July period, the government posted a deficit of only P48.3 billion, equivalent to 15 percent of the P323-billion full-year deficit limit.

The government's contingent debt as end-June amounted to P595.4 billion, up 0.3 percent from the previous month's P581.9 billion.

Contingent debt is the amount of liabilities of government-owned

GOVT'S/ B6

Fungal inspection

MSI PAYROLL
A secures FAST, COMPLETE and ACCURATE computation of payroll and generation of government reportorial requirements.
METROSOFT, INC.

IF FIRST, I WANTED TO TELL you about that fungus infesting my hair, which I am sure I caught from the flash floods in Metro Manila last week.

But I am certain that you are interested to another kind of fungal infection—the kind affecting this non-existent son of Diokno.

From what I hear, state-owned PHOC Exploration Co. may soon lose its cardinal genius in the oil exploration business.

He goes by the name of Eduardo Mañalac, president and CEO of PHOC EC, who probably lost his mind (four years ago in 2002) when he decided to join the government.

Or maybe, as an expert in oil exploration, Mañalac assessed we lucky big country, which is the Philippines, just is one serious oven to the heaven are used big files.

In the late 1990s, Mañalac was sending the Oil and exploration firm Philippine Petroleum, searching for oil deposits in the Malay Gulf in the southern part of Cebu.

Under Mañalac, the company drawn, and the largest oil-driven oil reserves in Davao, which was reported to have a proven reserve of about a billion barrels.

That's why the Chinese government finds him a hero.

Sensing him with love—not sex, but TWO—neutrals for his secret, plutocrat.

And so when Mañalac retired from Philippine Petroleum in 2000, our own Department of Energy grabbed him.

In 2004, Gloriaeta assigned him to PHOC EC. Word is he gave personal due: the PHOC EC board is a name for him. Uh-oh. What's the guy who is always in China.

In his own country, Mañalac soon find that his expertise in oil exploration and production is no match to the fungus called corruption.

It seems that this case administration wants to get rid of Mañalac in connection with the Corrupt-Malampaya oil field off Palawan.

It is a small oil reservoir, estimated to contain only about 80 million barrels, which nevertheless can still be profitable in today's day, high price of oil.

And so last March, PHOC EC under Mañalac drilled 12 small oil companies to vie for the contract to make the Malampaya oil field productive.

Subsequently, PHOC EC picked a IL-based company called Mitra Energy, and the two sides started their negotiations in May.

After three months of bargaining, and just when PHOC EC and Mitra were about to sign the contract, Du Pelaez issued the mysterious Executive Order 556.

Ostensibly, the order had in other purpose but to stop PHOC EC from awarding the contract to Mitra.

Up to now, nobody can say who actually prepared EO 556. It certainly did not come from the Department of Energy. It just came out of nowhere.

Now, in true Fungal fashion, one of the companies bidding for the contract (although it lost to Mitra) questioned in court the qualifications of Mitra.

It claimed that the Carnegie Malampaya oil reservoir was part of the so-called "natural patrimony," which was made famous by newspaper publisher Emilio Yap in the Manila Hotel privatization.

The petitioner claimed that the owners should go to a different company perhaps such as local entrepreneurs whose worldwides are close to Gloriaeta or something like.

Ironically, upon close Fungal inspection, you may discover that the very same company that invoked "natural patrimony" is registered in Vanuatu.

* * *

Hear come nobody told me that the "yellow pages" in those thick heavy telephone directories are now online at the website "www.yp.ph."

The biggest banker of telephone directories in the country is called Directories Philippines Corp. or DPC, a 17 year old local firm that took over from the US firm GTE Directories Inc.

Unknown to many DPC has quite hi-tech, it already set up that "yellow pages" website, and now even the mobile phone service called "UDM."

In the website, you are soon for quick information on hotels and restaurants, for instance, whether or not they have limousine services, smoking section, live entertainment, satellite services, or if they accept credit cards.

As for the hotels, the printed "yellow pages" have more useful information than for our public school teachers, such as area zip codes, and even the requirements for getting birth certificate from the NSO or clearance from the BIR.

* * *

The real story behind the circle-jerk "yellow pages" flip-flop resignation playboy from the board of the exclusive Manila Golf Club (P1.5 million initiation membership or today's market price) had nothing to do with his tanning.

It seems that one day without of a judge who was also a club member, the handsome hero boy demanded that he be made part of the club's membership committee.

That was a powerful group, by the way, since it owned the up-

Lenovo recommends Windows® XP Professional.
intel Inside Dual-core. Do more.
I CARRY MY BUSINESS ON MY SLIM PERS.
Lenovo 3000 V100
₱81,595
Lenovo 3000 N100
₱71,595
lenovo.

Keppel Marine gets new board director, eyes ecozone tax perks

By Rica T. Dichoso

MAIL TYCOON HENRY SY SR. MAY have resigned as board director of Keppel Philippines Marine Inc. but he has kept his 1,000 shares in the shipbuilding company, which is out to take advantage of tax perks open to export-oriented enterprises.

Keppel Marine is the shipbuilding unit of Keppel Philippine Holdings Corp., an affiliate of the Keppel Group of Singapore, the world's largest oil rig maker and the largest marine group in Asia.

Sy's SM group owns about 9 percent of Keppel Philippine Holdings.

In a disclosure to the Philippine Stock Exchange, Keppel Marine said it has elected Jose Developments Corp. president Angelo Gatchalian to replace the mall tycoon, who gave up the directorship to the company on Sept. 5, citing "work pressure in the SM Group of Companies."

He, who had been a director of the company since 1989, had appointed Gatchalian to his favor in Keppel Philippine Holdings' directors' November 6.

On September 6, Gatchalian acquired 1,000 Keppel Marine shares of his own.

Sy is still director of Subic Shipyard & Engineering Inc., Keppel Philippines Properties Inc. and SM Keppel Land Inc.

Another board member of Keppel Marine was likewise replaced.

The company had resigned Fe Cheng Hee to Keppel Investments in Singapore, prompting him to resign his directorship here.

His place in the board of directors has gone to Bob Boon Hung, a mechanical and electrical engineer with 40 years of marine and shipyard experience.

The new board's first act has been to authorize the corporation to file an application for registration as an ecozone export enterprise with the Philippine Economic Zone Authority (PEZA).

Should its application be approved, Keppel Marine would be able to take advantage of the available incentives being extended by the government to companies operating and generating foreign exchange earnings.

Export enterprises are those that manufacture, assemble or process products which are 100 percent exported, unless a lower percentage is approved by the PEZA.

Also, export-related pieces do not have to pay value-added duty, export tax and import fees for capital equipment, raw materials and spare parts. They may also pay a special tax rate of 5 percent of gross income, instead of having to pay national and local taxes.

Japan-RP pact seen to boost country's GDP

Group says Philippine output may go up by at least 0.52%

By Bernie W. Dominguez

THE RECENTLY SIGNED JAPAN-PHILIPPINES ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP Agreement is expected to raise the country's output by at least 0.52 percent, according to the Philippine Institute for Development Studies.

The Department of Trade and Industry, on the other hand, said that Japan's Research Institute of Economy, Trade and Industry estimates that output growth would range from 1.72 percent to 2.03 percent.

Data from the National Statistics Office show that the country's gross domestic product grew 5.1 percent as of the second quarter of 2006.

President Macapagal-Arroyo and Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi on Sept. 9 signed the JPEPA in Helsinki, Finland.

The signing of the agreement took place even as her trade advisories were urging Malacañang to reveal to the public the contents of the pact.

Trade Secretary Peter B. Favila, who is in Europe with the President, said in a statement that while the JPEPA was by itself "already beneficial" to the Philippines, competitive variables in Southeast Asia bolstered the Islands' export's contribution to Philippine interests.

"Without the cause of the JPEPA, Philippine exporters' share of the Japanese market...can scarcely [enjoy] export market—would further be eroded by [relative aggressive] pursuing negotiations with Japan," Favila said.

The East Asian economic powerhouse has existing trade pacts with Singapore and Malaysia. Talks between Japan and Thailand are nearing completion.

Also, Japan is negotiating with Indonesia and Brunei. Negotiations with Vietnam are expected to start soon.

Favila said the JPEPA was a "unique opportunity" for the country to compete more dynamically with competitors in the region for the Japanese market.

He said that in 2005, Indonesia accounted for 28.7 percent of Japanese imports from Southeast Asia, while Thailand and Malaysia represented shares of 21.4 percent and 20.2 percent, respectively. In the same year, Philippines shipments accounted for 10.6 percent of Southeast Asian exports bound for Japan.

Food exporters retool facilities for expansion

By Christina A. Gayticon

LOCAL EXPORTERS OF PROCESSED FRUITS expect to double their shipments to 6,000 tons next year to meet increasing world demand for healthier products, according to industry officials.

Exporters of bananas and other marinated and preserved fruit chips, led by Trinity Marine Trade Corp., Profresh International and Sea's International, already have in the pipeline programs to expand production.

Nestor C. Bautista, president of Trinity Group of Companies, said the business that his export firm would be investing their facility in Polomolok, South Cotabato to expand production "from 500 tons to 1,000 tons in order to meet the growing demand in the international markets here in Asia, the United States and the European Union."

Profresh International, based in the US and, so far, the Philippines' largest exporter of processed fruits, has the capacity to deliver at least 3,000 tons.

Robert Sze of Sea's International said that consumers are now looking for new varieties of products.

"There is really great demand for banana chips ... and the market is growing," Sze said.

The facility of Sea's International in Davao City processes 40 tons of fruits a week. The firm also have plants in Samar, Cebu and Cotabato. It also packages six kilos per pack, priced between $5 to $6.

At present, there are around 24 processing plants in Mindanao with the capacity to process from 20 to 60 tons of produce a day.

In 2005, banana chips export volume was 16,530 tons, valued at $16.86 million, or $1.01 per kg. The chips are exported to 10 countries.

Your $ can earn more with PSBank's HIGHER RATES

1 month	3.50%
2 months	3.50%
3 months	3.63%
6 months	3.75%
12 months	3.88%

PSBank US Dollar TIME DEPOSIT

Open an account now at any PSBank branch nationwide!

DISCOVER A BACK-UP SOLUTION THAT CAN TAKE CARE OF ITSELF.

STARTING BELOW ₱257,000 HP STORAGEWORKS MSL2024 TAPE LIBRARY

Experience the unparalleled peace of mind that comes with HP's award-winning StorageWorks Tape Drive library. The advanced HP StorageWorks MSL2024 Tape Library is the smart way to back up your data with its ability to automatically load up to 24 tapes without human supervision, delivering an impressive 9 GB of native data capacity in a 2U form factor. So, for an unparalleled reliable way to maintain high availability and to protect your business data from unforeseen disasters, get the HP StorageWorks MSL2024 Tape Library today. And here's the low price offer is good from August 15 to October 15, 2006 only.

STARTING FROM ₱358,000 HP STORAGEWORKS MSL4048 TAPE LIBRARY

STARTING FROM ₱699,000 HP STORAGEWORKS MSL6000 TAPE LIBRARY

With certified service and genuine parts, the HP Care Pack adds more value to your warranty. Learn more today.

1-800-1441-6688
or (632) 867-2337
phcontact@hp.com

hp invent

Gold falls below $600

MORE TROUBLE AT THE AIRPORT. SECURity officers at the fifth arrested a woman for bringing 2 bottles of 22 grams tea set to a store. They thought that if she mixed them, it would become 24.

My mother-in-law sings in the church choir. She has a falsetto voice and haberto teeth.

I have been feeling like a bicycle chain past few days. Two Coral. So I decided to join a health club. I wouldn't take Pilates because I don't know how to fly so I settled for aerobics for senior citizens. I bent, twisted, gyrated, jumped up and down and perspired for an hour. By the time I got my breath on, the class was over. The advantage of going to hoop th classes is that you die healthier.

In England, we just started walking 5 miles a day when she was 60. Now, she is 97 years old and nobody knows where the hell she is.

I entered my wife for the TV program 'Trading Spouses but nobody wanted to swap so she received The Biggest Loser. Will she write? Weight and see. If she reach this , I'm dead. I said to her this morning, "Call or not? She said, "What lots of cuddles?.

A missionary wanted teaching English in the tribal deed. "This is a tree," said the priest. "Tree", said the chief. "This is a rock." "Rock." "That is the sun." "Sun." The priest was very pleased with the chief's progress but suddenly they came across a couple having sex in the bushes. Hurriedly, the priest said, "Man riding bike." The chief pulled out his spear and killed them both. "Why did you do that?" asked the priest. "I have spent years trying to make you civilized." The chief replied, "My bike."

Probably the most important event last week was the announcement that the SEC would investigate shares, which went limit up for no apparent reason. Unknown, they had been satisfied when the company said, "We know of no reason for the rise." However, the situation got completely out of hand and during the week, MPC, DD, AS, AA, Bimbo, B and others were limit up. SEC about 3 times. So now the SEC will look into who has been trading these stocks before we have another BW disaster.

Following the announcement, the Gled Industrials sharply sold with Tenix down on Friday. It has fallen from P3 to P1.2 in a few days and shows how dangerous it is for the retail crowd to buy blindly on tips. Where there's a tip, there's a rat, is an English saying and it is very easy for unsophisticated speculators to manipulate. For example, a stockholder who owns 100 common shares will now have five common shares with a par value of P1 each.

MPC is undertaking a corporate reorganization that will transfer its shares and its property assets to a debt-free company, Metro Pacific Investments Corp. (MPIC).

MPIC will later be listed on the stock exchange after the reorganization, replacing MPC.

PSE lifts MPC trading suspension

By Elizabeth L. Sarabia

TRADING IN SHARES OF METRO Pacific Corp., a unit of Hongkong giant First Pacific Co. Ltd., resumed yesterday after a 10-day suspension.

MPC shares closed at P0.66, up from the previous 30 sessions last Aug. 28, to reflect the company's capital restructuring program. There were 1,321 million shares that changed hands for P4.86 million.

The Philippine Stock Exchange (PSE) allowed trading in MPC shares to resume at about 10 a.m. yesterday to allow investors to reflect the impact of the capital restructuring.

MPC reduced its issued and outstanding shares to 952.8 million shares from 19 billion shares. It effectively reduced a stockholder's shares at 20-to-1 ratio without any change in the PC par value.

Yields of longer term ...

Viewpage B3

billion, higher than the government's debt offering of only P2 billion in exclusive. Despite the overoversubscription, P3-day bills, the amount of tenders were still weak compared with the bids for the other government securities.

Despite the increase in the rate for the 91-day bill, Cruz said the appetite for government securities was still strong among banks because of the high level of liquidity in the market. There were P7.3 billion worth of maturing government securities this week that added to market liquidity, Cruz said.

The rate for the 182-day bills fell to 7.3333 percent, dropping by 31.7 basis points from the previous 8.23 percent. The 364-day bills fetched 8.961 percent, declining by 16.1 basis points from 7.261 percent.

"Overall, the bond market remained in remain positive as the lack of very benign financial market abroad. People think that the pause in the Federal Reserve in raising its interest rate would be longer than originally expected," Cruz said.

He explained that expectations that the Fed would no longer implement another increase in its key interest rate makes appetite for government securities attractive for emerging market economies like the Philippines more attractive.

Cruz said the increase in the rate for the 91-day bill might not substantially affect lending rates imposed by banks, pointing out that the 91-day bill are benchmarks for and less of a benchmark for lending rates because of the government's move to reduce the issuance of short-term government securities.

Gov't debt at ₱3.998T in June

Viewpage B3

and controlled corporations and government financial institutions that are guaranteed by the national government. These become part of the national government's liabilities once the borrowing state-owned firms default on their loans.

Of the P935.4 billion in contingent debt, P48.1 billion was component of liabilities to domestic creditors while the balance of P826.3 billion was sourced from foreign creditors.

Michelle V. Rivera

TAKE A STAND. SUBSCRIBE TODAY.

Stop fence-sitting. Choose a plan and subscribe.

SUBSCRIPTION 1
360 issues +22 issues FREE/year
SAVE P396!

SUBSCRIPTION 2
180 issues +10 issues FREE/year
SAVE P180!

SUBSCRIPTION 3
90 issues +4 issues FREE/year
SAVE P72!

FREE delivery plus exclusive monthly Inquirer supplements. Call now and get a complimentary magazine copy from HP publications. Cash, MasterCard, or VISA payments accepted. Go ahead, take a stand. Call now:

The Philippine Daily Inquirer delivers.
Call 896-6000 to subscribe!
Open to Metro Manila residents only.

Peso seen hitting 46-48:$1 level by early '07

Good macroeconomic fundamentals trigger optimism

By Doris C. Dumlao

METROPOLITAN BANK AND Trust Co.'s treasury chief sees the peso rising past the 46-48:$1 level by the end of this year.

It also expects the peso to climb further to a range of 46-48 to $1 next year given the country's positive macroeconomic fundamentals.

"I'm quite bullish because I can see that the fiscal management side for this year is going to be much better than the target. The government is using the 2005 budget as expenses are limited. Its fiscal revenue is based on the 2006 program as the budget deficit is going to be way below the ceiling," said Metrobank head of treasury Edmundo Go.

Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) governor Amando Tetangco Jr. earlier said that the project might also qualify as a new project based on the 2006 BIP general guidelines' definition that one should involve a completely new production line.

Alaska's planned factory would include a reconstituted milk processing plant, a spray drying plant and filling and packaging equipment.

The factory will turn out powdered milk in containers sold for retail packs as 400 grams, 900 gms, 2.25 gms, 450 gms and 750 gms.

It would also produce the formula in tin cans at 900 gms and 1,200 gms.

The main raw material of the powdered filled milk is skimmed milk, a semi-processed agricultural product prepared from fresh milk through pasteurization, skimming and dry spraying.

Senator Manny Villar, the proponent for a six-year income tax holiday, duty-free importation of capital goods as well as other fiscal incentives, said.

"The proposed project falls within the preferred activities of the 2006 Investment Priorities Plan under the category of commercial processing of agricultural products," the BOI said.

The agency added that the project might also qualify as a new project based on the 2006 BIP general guidelines' definition that one should involve a completely new production line.

Alaska's planned factory would include a reconstituted milk processing plant, a spray drying plant and filling and packaging equipment.

The factory will turn out powdered milk in containers sold for retail packs as 400 grams, 900 gms, 2.25 gms, 450 gms and 750 gms.

It would also produce the formula in tin cans at 900 gms and 1,200 gms.

Go said the improved economic numbers were attracting fresh investment flows to the country.

"You've seen overseas employment and investments coming in. You'll also see GDI dollars coming due to expectations of interest rates being kept on hold by the US Federal Reserve," Go said.

Economic data coming out of the US indicate that the US Fed may keep its rates on hold at 5.25 percent in the next Federal Open Market Committee meeting on Sept. 20. Some economists believe the rates would be kept steady through 2007, ending the two-year monetary tightening.

This developed as the world's largest economy showed signs of economic slowdown and contain and inflation pressure. Unit labor costs were revised higher, nations at home prices eased and business confidence was weak.

Go said domestic fundamentals supported the continued appreciation of the peso.

"It's just a matter of time and I think it (peso) will break into the 49 level or better against the dollar," Go said, adding that the expected sovereign credit upgrade grows louder and when the seasonal peak in OFW remittances is reached by December," Go said.

After a brush into the P49.35 level, he said the next targets would be P48.91 and then P48.81.

The peso has so far appreciated by about P1.30 or nearly 3 percent against the US dollar since the start of the year, hitting its highest close in four years at P49.23-.81.

The strong peso appreciation is seen to favor the government's expectation of a downward trend in inflation as it reduced the costs of importation, particularly of oil. It also is true the cost of the government's foreign debt servicing and given the benign interest rig Philippine leverage on its monetary policy.

The BSP has maintained its 7.5-percent overnight borrowing rate and 9.5% percent overnight lending rate since October last year.

New Alaska milk factory gets perks

By Ronnel W. Domingo

THE BOARD OF INVESTMENTS has approved the granting of incentives to Alaska Milk Corp.'s P676-million project involving the setting up of a new factory of powdered filled milk, which the firm hoped to help it maintain its market share.

Alaska—which manufactures, distributes and sells canned, powdered and ultra-heated treated milk products—is one of the two major players in the local milk industry.

The company has maintained a strong hand in the liquid canned milk sector, with rivals Nestle and condensed milk, and "a growing position" in the powdered milk category.

BOI data showed that the new plant would have a rated capacity of about 1,225,425 cans or about 11,250 metric tons annually.

The BOI said that while the project would import about 72 percent of its raw material requirements, it would be registered as a pioneering venture as it is cost, placed at about $1.3 million, exceeded the minimum requirement of $1.0 million for nonpublic for the status.

TIMEKEEPING MADE SIMPLE!
No More PC Connection!
Price 15,000.00
CVA-100
Fingerprint Time/Attendance
Price 19,000.00
AV-100
Fingerprint Time/Attendance & Access Control System
MUSTARD SEED

Turn your PC or POS into a Surveillance System!
Protect your Home/Office/Store with a DIY Surveillance System
MUSTARD SEED
+63(2) 533-1992 | 533-3612
533-6040 | 534-1529 | 532-4095

PLANNED MIRANT SALE

Employees assured of full protection

MIRANT PHILIPPINES' EMPLOYEES are assured of full protection in the planned sale of the company said Mirant chair and president Jose Lorenzo Jr.

"Our employees are well protected in our plan to sell the offshore mother company that owns Sual and Ilijan because we are selling the company, not the assets. This means all existing contracts with and obligations to employees will remain intact," Lorenzo said.

He said that in an asset sale, if a power plant was sold, the employees operating it could be terminated because it was no longer owned by the company.

"That will not happen here because the Philippine companies will continue to own the plants and will therefore need the personnel running them," he said.

Even if an employee would be separated for reasons permitted by law, Lorenzo stressed that employees would be amply protected.

The law requires a severance pay of only one month for every year of employment in case of redundancy and one-half month's pay for every year of service in case of retrenchment, when the company is losing money.

In contrast, Mirant provides a severance pay of 1-1/2 months for every year of employment based on 14 months plus benefits.

Lorenzo said that under the law, an employee with a 5-year tenure earning P20,000 a month should get a severance payment of P50,000. A comparable employee employed and getting P20,000 tuition even including the benefits in the base, he added.

Biofuels seen ideal for use in RP

By Abigail L. Ho

MOTOR VEHICLE MANUFACTURERS CLAIM that ethanol-blended gasoline is not compatible with carbureted engines, a fuel expert is saying otherwise, even noting that the alternative fuel is ideal for use in countries with warm weather such as the Philippines.

According to Elmer Remolador, treasurer of the Liderat, carbureted engines will even benefit from the use of ethanol-blended gasoline as these types of engines operate at very low-pressure differentials, making them unable to compensate for the volume efforts of partially vaporized fuel.

The blending of ethanol with gasoline, Liderat explained, picked up the latent heat of vaporization of the fuel. This, he says, allows the ethanol to absorb heat. When the ethanol vaporizes, the air density in the fuel mixture also increases.

This enhances the air/fuel mixture. In further said.

The Chamber of Automotive Manufacturers of the Philippines Inc. (Camp) earlier said that 40 percent of the vehicles in the country were not fit for biofuels.

The group said carbureted vehicles were not compatible with biofuels as their open-loop systems would not adjust or changes in the oxygen content of the fuel, resulting in higher emissions.

Camp further said that around two to five million cars currently plying the country's roads could not biofuels as these had carbureted engines.

"The statement that 40 percent of the vehicles in the country are not fit for biofuels is an obvious error on an outright lie," said Liderat, who has done extensive research on the development and application of ethanol and other gasoline substitutes.

He also refuted Camp's claims that ethanol could degrade vehicle "drivability" due to its higher heat of vaporization compared to gasoline, rubber retainer orifices, which could result in poorer cold start performance.

Camp had also said the energy content of ethanol was lower than that of pure gasoline, resulting in reduced mileage.

While Liderat admitted that using a 10-percent ethanol blend in gasoline reduced the energy content by 3.2 percent, he said this did not bring down a vehicle's overall efficiency.

Breaktime

Front page B2

places for membership in the most exclusive of the exclusive clubs in the country.

In front of the judge, according to the story, one have demanded to know from the committee why he was not voting with enthusiasm every while he sat in the committee, calling inanimate policies and such to applicants.

In other instances, the playboy tried to influence the club to hire a janitorial service company he also wanted the club to award a P30-million pine contract for the club's swimming pool, apparently to some people known to him and him alone.

These things did not sit well with the board members, of course.

Over at the capital markets, it is also said that the Ben Ince had shown leadership qualities, gaining support from the financial community. But then again, some people did not like the idea of his acting his position of power for ... well, "business opportunities."

We are told that, lately, our hero is now in the plush Makati subdivision Bel-Air, testing with him a variety of "security" personnel in expensive SUVs.

My source could not say if he goes to the house of a certain lyrikala.

PSE lifts MPC trading . . .

From page B4

and later a swap of MPC shares for MPIC shares. The first stage will also include the sale of MPC's 56 percent stake in Landco to MPIC.

In the second stage, the newly formed MPIC will make a tender offer to MEC shareholders subject to the approval of regulators. At the same time, MPIC will list its shares in the PSE while MPC's own listing will be withdrawn.

At this stage, MPIC will directly own a majority of Landco and MEC.

MPC meanwhile will continue to exist as a private company and will own shipping firm Negros Navigation Co. and other land assets in Fort Bonifacio.

The third phase will involve raising P2.7 billion in new capital through a rights issue. MPC earlier signed an agreement with Australian investment firm Ashmore Global Situations Fund for the latter to invest in MPIC by way of rights to be assigned by the First Pacific Group.

Once the rights issue is completed this month, MPIC will have a total capital of P4.3 billion.

After the offer, MPIC will be owned 52 percent by the First Pacific Group, 35 percent by Ashmore and 13 percent by the public.

AIM ASIAN CENTER FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP
ENTREPRENEURIAL LEADERSHIP AND STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT
OCTOBER 24 - 27, 2006
PROGRAM OVERVIEW
The Entrepreneurial Leadership and Strategic Management (ELSM) course is developed for entrepreneurs and key managers of small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and enterprise development organizations.
The ELSM focuses on:
- Strategizing and leadership approaches for enterprises
- Essential tools for enterprise strategic planning
- Strategies to improve enterprise positioning and performance
- Leadership principles and applications
DISTINGUISHED FACULTY
COURSE CONTENT
1. Appreciative Inquiry Strategic Adaptive Ideological Creative Rational
2. The Strategic Planning Process
- External Assessment: A Framework for Understanding
- Looking at the Big Picture
- Macro and Micro Market Analysis: The Small Picture
- Internal Assessment: A Framework for Organizational Diagnosis
3. Enterprise Visioning and Positioning
4. Entrepreneurial Leadership
- The Entrepreneurial Leader: A Self-Assessment
- Leading the Enterprise
- Leadership Challenge
- Applying the Learnings to your Enterprise
- Strategic Plan for your Enterprise
- Leadership Action Program
For inquiries and reservation call Ms. Lucy Villanueva / Ms. Lou Ayuste
Tel +63 (2) 892-4011 to 15 ext. 107, 152, 210, 152 / Telefax +63 (2) 891-3300
Email: pdmf@aim.edu / villanueva@aim.edu
EQUIS
www.aim.edu

BUSINESS

ENVIRONMENTAL GUARDIAN AWARD

Former Health Secretary and now Medical City president Dr. Alfredo R. A. Bengzon accepts the Guardian of the Environment award from National Water Resources Board executive director Nasser Alikpala, as Manila Water chair Fernando Zobel looks on. The Manila Water-sponsored award was given to Medical City for its superior healthcare services, and social reform and environmental advocacy.

Net FDI inflows hit $996M

Increase mirrors positive investor sentiment on RP

By Doris C. Dumlao

THE PHILIPPINES GENERATED $996 million in net foreign direct investments in the first semester, more than double the $384 million posted a year ago, given a more upbeat investor sentiment on the manufacturing and services sectors.

The Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas reported yesterday that for the month of June alone, the net FDI inflows amounted to $230 million, a reversal from a net outflow of $23 million in the same period last year.

"The rising net FDI flows mirrored the positive sentiments of investors in the country's economic climate following the news on the sustained GDP (gross domestic product) growth, increasing GIR (gross international reserves), surplus fiscal position from April-June and easing inflation rate," BSP Governor Amando Tetangco Jr. said in a press statement.

Behind the more than two-fold expansion in net FDIs during the first half of the year was the reversal of the "other capital" account to a surplus of $656 million, from a net outflow of $187 million in the same period in 2004. The improvement in this account had more than offset the net outflow of $25 million in reinvested earnings in the first six months of the year.

The "other capital" account refers to the claims/equity borrowing/lending of locals between foreign direct investors and their local subsidiaries, branches or affiliates in the Philippines, based on BSP records, these investments/ accounts largely involved automotive and electronic firms.

Net equity capital also remained in surplus at $383 million from January to June 2005, although lower than the year-ago level.

Equity investments rebounded in the second quarter after posting a contraction in the previous quarter.

Foreign investments during the six-month period largely came from the United States, Japan, the United Kingdom, Federal Republic of Germany, Switzerland and Taiwan.

Tetangco said the bulk of the capital placements were infused into manufacturing (chemicals, health-care, electronics, semiconductor), system and wave panel, service (medical research, investment facilities, information technology, engineering, construction and facilities management), financial intermediation and real estate sectors.

Unlike portfolio investments, which are more volatile, FDIs represent investments in brick-and-mortar businesses that are capital- and, usually, labor-intensive, including new factories, mill-ventures, power plants and mining ventures.

In a recent report comparing the Philippines and Indonesia, Standard & Poor's associate director for sovereign ratings Agnes Benard said Fitch in both countries had been negligible for much of the past 10 years, leading little support to balance of payments and economic growth.

"The lack of FDI places an indirect constraint on credit fundamentals, largely through the effect on growth prospects, but also because foreign capital inflows are a more stable source of external liquidity than portfolio inflows," Benard said.

Time to loosen up

You have reached the peak of success. Before, all you did was tighten your belt so you had to prove yourself, now it's time to loosen up and savor the fruits of your hard work.

You recently paid in full your family's home when better news followed that you got promoted at work. Nothing can be more spectacular than good fortune coming your way.

Wouldn't it be nice to reminisce the challenges you overcame to get to where you are right now? Are they still vivid in your memory? Remember how you celebrated your wedding anniversary dancing to music that reminded you of the past? Or the time you treated your family to a vacation get-away after receiving a hefty bonus for a job well done?

These good memories cherish be you. Just like PSBank's passbook savings account. With the new personal notes column in the PSBank passbook, you can record where you spent the money you withdrew from your savings, or what good fortune you had or hard work you did to add to your deposit. At PSBank, we want you to record every financial highlight in your passbook as if it were a diary. The new PSBank passbook helps you keep better track of your money and your aspirations in life. The extra column makes the passbook more like your personal journal or diary, giving it more emotional attachment.

PSBank values the culture of savings. That's why this Bank encourages you to save more by offering you the benefits of a passbook savings. Passbook savings are perceived as disciplined: one from making too many withdrawals and refrain from those spur-of-the-moment buying. Since transactions must be made in a branch/atm with an ATM that is highly accessible, a passbook savings gives you ample time to re-think and evaluate whether you should make the withdrawal or not. This way, there's a better chance of building up your savings and hence inspiration to spend your money.

And a PSBank passbook lets you enjoy the convenience of being able to withdraw from any of their 150 branches nationwide. Our passbook accepted in 150 branches, that is definitely hassle free and fast banking.

Record each of your every financial milestone in PSBank's new personal notes column. After all, it's not just any passbook. It's the story of your life.

LIFESTYLE
Edna Chua-Bandi Ferreras

IN THIS ISSUE
■ No-fuss cures /C4

Evolution, environment and weight gain

Not us:

THE RECENT International Congress on Obesity blamed evolution and the environment for the "global obesity pandemic."

As reported by Reuters News Agency, Kim Steinbeck, co-chair of the conference, said, "We know this [obesity] is not about gluttony... it is the interaction of heredity and environment."

In his book, "The New Truths About Weight Loss," Dr. David Kirschenbaum says, "We are fighting against biological survival mechanisms that have allowed the human race to stay alive through famines and other environmental disasters."

These mechanisms include the ability to store fat as efficiently as possible and to lower the metabolic rate when food is not available, a predisposition to mood binge-eating, and a built-in preference for fatty and sweet food.

These in-born mechanisms served the human race well in our environment where food was scarce. However, in today's world, these same genetic survival tactics are now our downfall.

Our bodies are still like those of our prehistoric ancestors for we live in an environment where a fast-food meal can have 1,000 calories.

Is the human race thus doomed to die out from obesity-related diseases? Kirschenbaum does not believe that biology is our destiny because we are smarter than our biology. He says we can use our brains to outwit our genes.

Understanding why our bodies are designed to hold on to fat is not meant to give you a convenient excuse not to lose weight but to help you be more successful in controlling your weight.

If you are overweight, you are not a "weak" person, a glutton, or someone with poor willpower. Rather you are a normal human being with a body whose main priority is survival.

So let go of negatives and embrace positive attitudes and devise a meaningful action plan to deal with these biological forces.

Sweet tooth

Kirschenbaum gives three reasons why we are literally born with a sweet tooth:

"When we are hungry, sugar provides the quickest solution... When humans or other animals are starving, they consistently show heightened preferences for very sweet foods. This, again, shows the body's orientation to satisfying extreme hunger and food deprivation quickly and effectively with sugar.

"Sweet foods are safe foods. Can you think of any examples of solid fruits or berries or vegetables that are sweet and also dan-

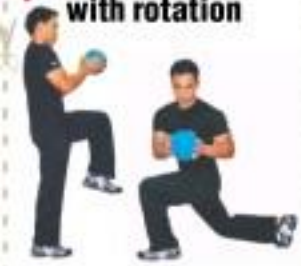
EVOLUTION C2

WELL AND GOOD
Tina Arao

CLIP & SAVE

EXERCISE OF THE WEEK

Backward lunge with rotation



STRENGTHENS THE BUTTOCKS, hamstrings, quadriceps (front of the thigh), and core muscles

Equipment:

Medicine ball. You can substitute an ordinary plastic or rubber ball or just pretend to hold a ball.

Exercise technique:

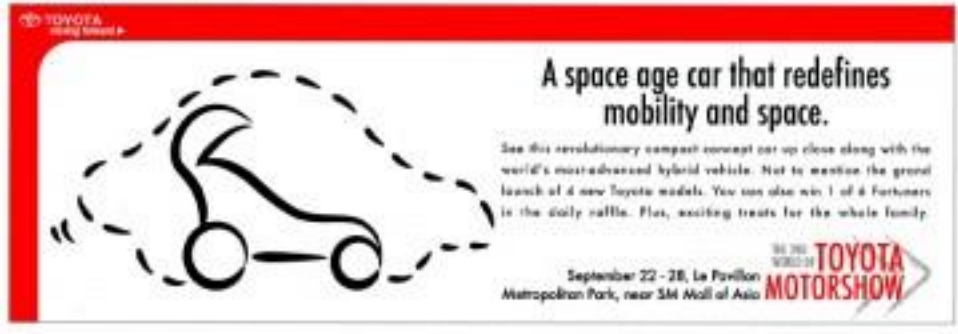
1. Stand with your feet apart and the ball in front of you.
2. Raise your right knee.
3. Lunge backward with your right leg, and rotate toward your left leg.
4. Come back to the starting position (with your knee up) by contracting the muscles in your left leg.
5. Do the desired number of repetitions. Next: Do the other side.

Performance tips

1. When you do this exercise for the first time, start slowly. Find, lunge backward, tilt, take the knee of the supporting leg. Finish. Failure to do so means that you are back to the starting position.
2. When you are familiar with the exercise, move smoothly and simultaneously lunge and rotate.
3. Stabilize the knee of the supporting leg. Do not allow the knee to wobble or your child with the ball.
4. Avoid bringing the knee past the toes of the supporting leg or you lunge backward.
5. Do not focus on how far to one of the floor you should bring the knee of the lunging leg. Instead focus on not keeping your balance and stabilizing the support-ing knee.
6. The weight of your body should be held over the support-ing leg. Even the lunging leg simply by not allowing by touching the floor only with the ball of the foot.

PERFORMANCE

Two repetitions per leg



PWAC Pingris and Jaymee Yap of Purefoods

ADIDAS' Jose Singson, Sabrina Cheung and Mac Pambuenda

"ROOKIE of the Year" winner Larry Fonacier of Red Bull, Joseph Yeo and Christian Luanzon

GOOD-LOOKING Bobbie Perales, Paolo Pardon, Luis Biondy and Phoenicia Barrameda

ALVIN Patrimonio and Linda Mumin Sadiwat

ACHIEVERS. Nile Pacheco of International Exchange Bank; Joel Orosco, Adidas Phils. CFO; and Roberto S. Almarvez, Olympic Village Group COO

HOTSHOTS. Young, handsome and bright Representatives-Sorsogon Angara, Miles Nacca, Joel Villanueva, Gilbert Remulla, Ben Bem Noel and Tranny Chipeco

SAKSHA Gonzalez, Adidas global sports marketing for indoor sports; and Winnie Lio, Southeast Asia managing director

AYALA'S wonder woman Vanessa Valentino and son PJ?

T-PMC and Charlton Ginero crash Ryan Gregorio, winner of the Coach of the Year award

Back is the T-Mac

HE ONE OF TODAY'S BIG HITTall heroes jetted in and had one town going gaga, pulanggis. Tracy "T-Mac" McGrady, mega star of the National Basketball Association was here as part of a hoop-ray-hoian tour.

His first stop was the Adidas Clinic to meet, watch! How was the Arroceros Boy Eagle Gym for basketball clinic Olimpic wannabe only out. Lt. Ralfi Gozon? Over to the launch of his T-Mac 1 limited-edition shoe at the Sunvalgreen Old Mall of Asia.

Celebrating the star's second visit here, Adidas hosted two fun lunches in his honor. The first evening, T-Mac attended an intimate cocktail party with the Philippines' basketball community and, of course, Adidas insiders.

The event's hosts, television personalities Paolo Bediones and Dennis Agatiel, with the help of the MY Homens Modern player and lifetime Adidas endorser, presented awards to the country's top basketball athletes and Adidas retailers, much!

There teams won the first Tournament. Pinoloods Chunkee grocers, Lemon Squites and Armour Slim Jogbo Ladies' Team. The award for Top Retailer went to Planet Sports Inc., Isdal Sport Inc., Quezon International Trading, R&R Interbuilt Inc. and Adrenaline Sports Goods.

Their performances by Mims, R&B artist Jay-R and the All-Star dancers had everyone forgetting basketball. Ashleigh.

At the party were tons of invitees including backcourt beauties like our favorite Joseph Yeo, DJ Mando, Wesley Gonzales and the Purefoods sub-sub team, headed by coach Ryan Gregorio and team manager, the big-eyed, Alvin Patrimonio.

WITHOUT BATTING AN EYELASH

Mauricio Arroyo

Photos by Mary Vaan Flaquer using Kodak EasyShare

On his last night, T-Mac chilled at the fabulous Super Club, pulangga. T-Mac had everyone applauding and bowling as he showed off his dance moves at the U-Groove, asking, "Does Manila know how to party?"

Well, dahlings, he definitely appointed the way we partied.

The 2006 Adidas T-Mac's Asian Tour kicked off in Seoul and ended in Hong Kong.

Soirees

Paper doorjabs and admirers Beatrice Aguinaldo-Jacinto and Rita Bertrand-Ledesma jointly hosted several arts get-outs for visiting dahlings, to entertain the latest collections of upcoin friends' cosmetic brands.

The first event launched Chanel's newest eye product, Ombre Eclat Liquide. Allure Liquide. Specially chosen women were asked for an intimate Dominique party at Nanini's Red Café. The highlight was the makeup demo by guest artist from Chanel International, no less, pulangga. Volunteering for the makeover were Leslie Lorenz, Monique Villareal, Lara Claveria-Perpuat, Pia Jurellano and Gisele Yuchengco.

All the gals were home with a

FIVE years old and stronger than ever

Chanel Precision was packed with Chanel's latest samples.

Next was the invitational intimate Aubey Workshop. Renowned for its botanical anti-aging products, Aubey introduced its state-of-the-art Phyto-Nano Whitening Mask.

Providing product information and answers to all the curious ladies' queries were cyber smart brand manager Tanya Jiuliano and her cut-cut name of top-of-the-line makeup experts, pulangga.

Money matters

Our town's well-heeled set came in full force for Citibank's Investment Outlook briefing, a two exclusive gathering investment strategies were dished out by some of the business community's brightest minds.

Held at the Ch-Ch Tower Club in Makati, it was exclusive to clients of Citibank Wealth Management Banking, Citibank's premium banking service and members of the Tower Club, natch.

Joining in from Singapore was the guest speaker, brilliant Lim Ai Hwan, Citibank Asia Pacific head of research communications for investment bank-ness.

Ate was told that before joining Citibank, Ai Hwan was a financial journalist in London and Singapore. She

BARBI GI

KATTAW'S top designer Criselda Lozada, Jojo Zalzarte and Mona Lacson check out Salay's latest products.

SANDRA Poblador and Mark Tuchinsky

PAR EXP son pri-vah time, Quimba Mobile, Most Wylie, Phoebe Bannister and Bobbie Gordon Jr (standing)

HELISSA Marvel and Karen Santos, all out for the makeup demo

TEA TIME. Hostesses of the afternoon events Mia Bartolome and Pramie Jacinto, with invitees Pia Jurellano, Tonya Jobson and Louie Locsin

MONIQUE Villareal, Lisa Chan Porjan and Marianne Chan

TOYOTA

An advanced invitation to see the most-advanced hybrid vehicle to date.

See the exhilarating technology behind the world's best hybrid car. First to mention the unveiling of Toyota's revolutionary concept car and the grand launch of 6 new Toyota models. You can also win 1 of 6 Fortuners in the daily raffle. Plus, exciting treats for the whole family.

September 22 - 28, La Pavilion
Metropolitan Park, near SM Mall of Asia

THE 2006 TOYOTA MOTORSHOW

CITIBANK'S Leo Dorotan and Lynette Tan; Robert Ong Jr. and Lucia Ong

BANKING GALS. Citibank's Pinoy Villanueva, Emily Santos, Janice Wenceslao and Grace Medalla

JEROME Velasco, Citibank Makati's Hida Capistrano and Valorie Ti of Citibank Singapore

Back is the T-Mac

Front page/C1

talked about basic investment principles and portfolio investing. The libreator gave the capacity audience valuable insights on what to expect, how to benefit from, and contain market volatility, promoting investment discipline.

She said "investors cannot win by timing the market; instead, one must continue to invest regularly by entering the market in stages."

Joining her in the briefing was Ramon Tejero, research and portfolio strategy head of Citibank affiliate Citicorp Financial Services and Insurance Brokerage Philippines Inc.

The get-together was just one of many privileges enjoyed by Citibank Wealth Management clients who get regular updates, portfolio reports and access to the services and capacities of the Citibank sub-team, pabongga.

Call 8947502 or visit www.citibank.com.ph.

LIM Al-MEUN of Citibank Asia Pacific; Marites Bacobo-Chua, Citibank Binondo branch manager; and Ramon Tejero of Citicorp Financial Services and Insurance Brokerage Philippines Inc.

It's fun!

It is almost the middle of September and one of the country's premiere lifestyle and arts (wo)men magazines is celebrating its fifth year, pabongga. It's still close as a bright sunny day in my mind when the magazine had four brilliant first daughters on its cover—Lali Arenas, Jo Ramos, Jiselle Hjerrild and Jenn Marcos.

Every year the Philippine Tatler puts out a list of the most influential hostesses in the country. Some of the leading players in this year's 20 page tour de force feature are President Macapagal-Arroyo and former President Corazon C. Aquino; Manny Pangilinan, Manny Pangilinan, Bernardo Ysmael Romey, the whole fly family—led by patriarch Henry Sy, an icon, pabongga.

Also in the almost awesome 300 page issue (which, by the way, is the thickest for the Philippine Tatler so far) is a piece on the society set from Pinoy Aquino written by his true friend, columnist and writer, the late Teddy Benigno.

Here comes the fun part, dahlings. Readers who fancy themselves experts in the ways of the country's privileged can get to check if they make the grade in the Social IQ 2006 pages.

The grand dame of society, Chito Manlapaz Cuthbertz, says, "Philippine Tatler is my favorite guilty pleasure." Need I say more?

We must say to the publisher, Irene Manuel Fenwicke, editor in chief Aaron Sua, Dingo, and the whole tah-tah, eah—congrats for making Tatler one of the top magazines in the country today.

MARGARET and Henry Tan Rani Chilvaris's Binky Mirabueno

NICOLAS Pileyre, winner of a trip to Singapore

Time to get a free TIMEX Cyclone or Priority watch with a new HSBC credit card. Or get any other TIMEX watch of your choice at 40% off.* Apply now!

Call (02) 751-8888, Manila (032) 416-8888, Cebu
Click www.hsbc.com.ph
Visit your nearest HSBC branch

HSBC
The world's local bank

*Promo runs from August 1 to September 30, 2006. Subject to credit approval. Terms and conditions apply.

Simple cures

CURES ARE ONLY NEEDED when there is a disease.

But have you ever wondered if it is possible to prevent the need for a cure? In other words, eliminate disease altogether?

Unfortunately, not. Our mental bodies are subject to attack daily by viruses and bacteria. When infection sets in, then prescription drugs are urgently required.

While there is no substitute for a doctor's visit, there are natural ways to prevent diseases and reduce visits to your doctor. They are called simple cures.

Take your fiber

Dietary fiber can prevent heart disease and cancers. It is considered one of the most effective treatments for constipation, hemorrhoids, varicose veins, diverticulosis and hernia.

Doctors on a weight-loss program should include fiber in their meal plans. Eat more fruits and vegetables, nuts and grains. Easy-to-mix fiber is also now available in capsules, like C-Lium Fiber.

Remember to double your water intake when taking fiber because it could cause constipation and aggravate your digestive problems.

INSIDE OUT

Gary Quevedo

Have a banana bonanza

Aching muscles, leg cramps, low energy, high blood pressure and dehydration can be eased by simply eating a banana. This potassium-rich fruit is, by far, the quickest remedy for aches and pains of all kinds.

When feeling overworked and unable to sleep, take a banana and let it work its wonders. Instant relief is almost guaranteed.

Keep your balance

Balance is controlled by what is called the vestibular system... the mechanism between ears and inner ears. When this system is disrupted, the result is dizziness.

No matter what the cause may be, here are a few methods to ease the spinning sensation:

- Hold on to something solid like a wall or pillar.
- Avoid sleeping on your back.
- Avoid positions that may trigger the dizziness. Starting out fast, compared to the pedal, sitting sideways on a dentist's chair, jogging with your head down).
- Try the Epsley Canalith exercises maneuver. Sit for 30 seconds on a couch or bed, spine straight, feet flat on the floor. Look straight at the furniture. Slowly lie on your right side, ear flat on the bed, chin over your shoulder. Hold still for 30 seconds. Repeat the same movement on your left side. Continue the exercises for 30 minutes. Do this three times a day.

Watch your prostate

If women have to worry about hormones, menstrual cycles, child birth and menopause, men have their problems to think of. This little gland can suffer from inflammation, infections and enlargement when a man is in his 20s through his 90s.

As men grow older, the prostate grows larger than normal and eventually squeezes the urinary tube causing discomfort in urinating (commonly labeled as kidney problems). The following can help in coping with enlarged prostates:

- Avoid spicy foods, alcohol, coffee or caffeinated drinks. These will only irritate the prostate gland.
- If you cannot avoid caffeinated beverages, do not take them after dinner.
- Use detergentless and diuretics with caution. Those include over-the-counter cold / sinus medications.
- The herbs saw palmetto and milk thistle have been used for decades as herbal remedies.
- You may consider laser surgery to prevent urinary obstruction or the TURP (Trans-urethral resection). See your doctor for medical options.

Less salt, fewer problems

Some people are more sensitive to salt than others. However if you are not sensitive to sodium, it helps to ease up on your salt intake, no matter how young or old you are.

Cut back salt use to 100 mg a day (if you are hypersensitive). You may not realize it but processed prepared foods are chock-full of salt. When cooking, use herbs or spices and lemon instead of salt.

Drink lots of water especially if you have eaten salty food. Exercise to sweat out the toxins.

Calcium not only works on your bones, it's helpful in reducing salt. Take a calcium-rich diet to fend off hypertension attacks or take a calcium supplement daily.

The only wine salt is good is in a salt bath. Fill your tub with warm water, add one-half cup of salt. Then pretend a 10 minute soak is another 4-star body.

More next week!

Love and light!

Reference: "Inner Cleansing Cures" by editors of PC & A Medical Publishing

A PATIENT undergoes heart scanning the single SEC's 64-slice LightSpeed VCT under the supervision of the medical staff at Makati Medical Center's Computerized Imaging Institute.

New machine to help improve heart disease management

THE MAKATI MEDICAL CENTER HAS acquired SEC's LightSpeed VCT, the first true 64-slice Volume CT (computed tomography) scanner for its Computerized Imaging Institute (CII).

The state-of-the-art equipment produces the most detailed images not only of the brain, chest, abdomen and spine, but particularly of the heart's arteries in a non-invasive manner.

It is expected to boost efforts to manage heart diseases, which have become major killers in the Americas, one of fourth East Asian Nations region.

Dr. Benjamin Adapon, radiologist and official member of the American Society of Neuroradiology, said the machine is a revolutionary that is limited on the cover of 350ms (milliseconds). It is unnecessary to undergo a battery of tests to know the condition of a heart. Adapon is chief of the hospital's CII.

New cardiac scans are helping develop more effective prevention strategies. The 64-slice CT scanners enable more accurate diagnoses of arterial blockages, stent directions and pinpointed evidences with their organization-detailed resolution and speed.

An effective tool for managing chest pain, the new equipment can give physicians valuable information in a matter of seconds, in one simple, non-invasive outpatient examination.

The high technology equipment enables physicians and the medical staff to see the whole heart in just five beats.

Call 8159275, 8922834, 8122842, 8159911 local 7245, 7295, 7149 and 52.

American experts to address 3rd AD/HD confab

THREE child DEVELOPMENT EXPERTS have been invited to speak at the 3rd National Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (AD/HD) Conference, Oct. 19-22, at the Manuel L. Quezon Auditorium in QC.

The event is organized by the AD/HD Society of the Philippines.

Theme of the conference is "The Child with AD/HD... All Grown Up" Dealing with Adolescence." Dr. Rae Ian Goldbeck, Dr. Bruce Goldberg and Dr. Hallowell will discuss managing teenagers with AD/HD.

Goldbeck is a clinical professor of psychiatry at the University of Washington and a recognized authority on AD/HD treatment and physical education in the United States.

Goldberg founded Educational Options, an institution dedicated to students with learning disabilities. Goldberg, on the other hand, is an in-house consultant to the Hallowell Center, one of America's foremost clinics for the diagnosis and treatment of children and teens with AD/HD.

Among the topics covered are Diagnosing AD/HD in Adolescents, Adolescent Conditions that Mimic AD/HD, Updates in the Management of AD/HD in Adolescents, Effective Treatment and Management of AD/HD Adolescents and Self-Esteem and Self-Building Blocks for the Future.

AD/HD or attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder is a common developmental disorder characterized by age-inappropriate impulsivity, inattention and hyperactivity.

Some four million school aged Filipinos are believed to have AD/HD but the disorder is still predominantly undiagnosed. Many children with AD/HD may be experiencing difficulties in school and at home but are not getting the needed help.

The AD/HD Society of the Philippines has been working for the past five years to raise the level of awareness of the problem through seminars, training workshops and media publicity. Filipinos are now more aware of the need for early identification and treatment of the disorder.

The group's conference coincides with the observance of National AD/HD Awareness Week, marked every third week of October.

Call 9225983 or 9266801 loc 0649 or e-mail adhdsociety@yahoo.com

Relief for hormonal skin problem

FREQUENT WOMEN EXPERIENCING SOME imbalance in hormone levels may face the problem of having brown or grayish patches on their face.

Commonly known as chloasma/melasma or mask of pregnancy, they are especially apparent in the cheeks, upper lip, nose, forehead and chin.

Melasma affects some 75 percent of pregnant women and up to 35 percent of women using oral contraceptives.

Women with melasma may try a topical drug after delivery to help lighten moderate to severe melasma. Available as a cream, it has three active ingredients: Dihydroxyacetone, Hydroquinone and Tretinoin.

Consult a licensed dermatologist if you think you are suffering from melasma. He/she will provide appropriate treatment for the skin problem.

Evolution, environment and weight gain

From page C3

gorone to eat? Probably not. If you find something hanging from a tree and it tastes sweet, it is almost certainly safe to eat. On the other hand, root or bitter fruits or vegetables are usually more likely to be poisonous.

"The body is programmed to eat large amounts of sugar or sweet foods when ever they are available. This made sense for hunter-gatherers; if they found something that tasted sweet, their kind, we wanted to encourage them to eat large quantities of it."

Honey is a prized food in primitive societies like the Aborigines of Australia and the Bushmen of South Africa. They go out of their way to find the sweet stuff and consume large quantities of it.

Action plan: DON'T SKIP MEALS or you don't become hungry and seek out sugary foods. Avoid processed food high in sugar and refined carbohydrates because the more you eat them, the more your body wants them. Try to eat some protein with every meal. Studies show protein helps to keep you feeling full.

Fatty food

As revealed by the practices of primitive hunters, human beings like fatty food. The fattest parts of an animal are not just first animal bones gathered from caves inhabited by the Neanderthal man show that the marrow was carefully removed.

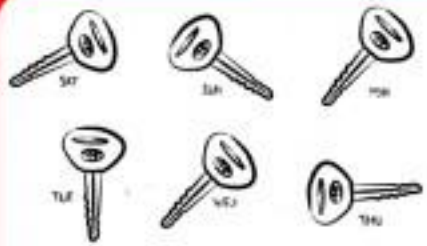
This makes some because animal fat is easier to eat than tough muscle. It is also the part that is the most flavorful. Some scientist he makes more points and mention Lastly, fat is the densest source of calories at nine calories a gram compared to four calories for protein and carbohydrates.

Author plans: Eating fatty food may have served in purpose when you had to run after your food. But, in today's society of abundance, food high in fat contains far more calories than your body needs. Cheese baked, boiled or grilled. Steak over fried. Cheese loaves cuts of meat. Drink non-fat milk.

Note: Fitness Network Philippines (formerly AFPF) will hold its National Fitness Convention, "Global Fitness Concepts," Sept. 22-26. Seven international presenters will share the latest in group exercise, personal training, and fitness management. Call 9202782 or 4917.3183/82. E-mail convention@fitnessphilippines.org or visit www.fitnessphilippines.org.

Note: International-acclaimed fitness presenter Lawrence Biscontini will teach Shakti, a blend of yoga, tai chi, and Pilates, on Sept. 25, Monday, in Alabang and Makati. Call Yoga Manila at 8926.6886/86 or visit www.yogamanila.com

TOYOTA



A motorshow that will bring you good fortune daily. 6 Fortuners to be exact.

Win 1 of 6 Fortuners in the daily raffle. Get a glimpse of the future with the most-advanced hybrid vehicle in the world and Toyota's revolutionary concept car. Enjoy exciting treats with the whole family. Plus, witness the unveiling of 4 new Toyota models.

THE 2ND WORLD OF TOYOTA MOTORSHOW

September 22 - 28, La Pavilion Metropolitan Park, near SM Mall of Asia

ENTERTAINMENT

Editor Ernesto G. Velarde

No 'love offerings' for Tyron

THE CONTROVERSIAL MOVIE "Twilight Dancers" got an "X" rating from the MTRCB. A few panel committee will do a second review of the film. Dindi Mel Chionglo, Tyron Perez, Allen Dizon and some more are now in Toronto for the panel's screening—without cats. Is it naked glory or porn?

Speaking of Tyron (who plays the lead in "Twilight"), he laughs off talks that a gay manufacturer gave him $5,000 pocket money for his favorite toy: "Bella [noon-ling, not dollars] Zaragoza. But totally now, I'm working as hard. I earn my own keep." Sorry folks, no "love offerings" accepted.

Irked songbird

Could it be true that Regine Velasquez got kinda pissed because they had to redirect some scenes to "Till I Met You?" Not her fault. So what's the culprit? Aside from that, her leading man Rossi came three hours late for their shooting. Good thing Ms. Songbird didn't fly away from the set!

Lola Vi!

Lola Montano says his mom Vilma Santos always tells him, "Apuhin pa maging lola ka!" I teased him, "Secret nanos yan pra'tso cute

Imago's 'Blush' a very polished, uplifting album

By Oliver M. Palomar-b
Core Buzz

REVIEW

LOCAL BAND IMAGO'S THIRD ALBUM "Blush" is an accessible set that doesn't sound at all like the Cebu music-inspired material from its critically acclaimed debut "Probably Not But Most Definitely."

But since the band opted to do away with violin-accented dance in its second album "Take 2," it isn't surprising that its new batch of songs would sound more radio friendly and pop- rock leaning. The band is committed to the songs now are at times vague but more open to interpretation, unlike the specific and metaphorically crafted tales previously penned by guitar/vocalist-songwriter Ash de Leon.

De Leon, guitarist Tito Cardeo, bassist Hyenor Avadenia and drummer Zach Lucero still exhibit an amazing energy that makes the album engaging. While "Take 2" found the group's creative muscles to harness even, organized, all-rock vibe in many of its songs, "Blush" displays a more mainstream bent, and less jungle-pop instrumentality.

Sprightly

Small, the colorful 10-song album comes in a collection of mostly uplifting, pop-rock songs that matches the up-tempo cadence.

"Yardsticks" sounds like a cross between a polished alt jangle and a cartoon theme song, while "Take" and "Chance" feel like 90s pop-inspired summer anthems.

Slower songs like "Lights Out" and "Alive" feel heavy and emotionally corporate-ized, but brothers seem as affirming as rallier songs like "May" and "Hey."

Challenging

The lyrics play a big part in making these new songs more challenging; the line is as figuring out the lyricist's intentions. "Be Be K," for instance, can be interpreted as a thinly veiled, and metaphorical, gay-bashing anthem, perhaps because their old recordings and straightforward "Ballads" already gave a different take on that.

De Leon's poetic lyrical acrostics have become outstandingly complex as previously noted, but maybe nonetheless

MINDS D2

DOLLY WOOD

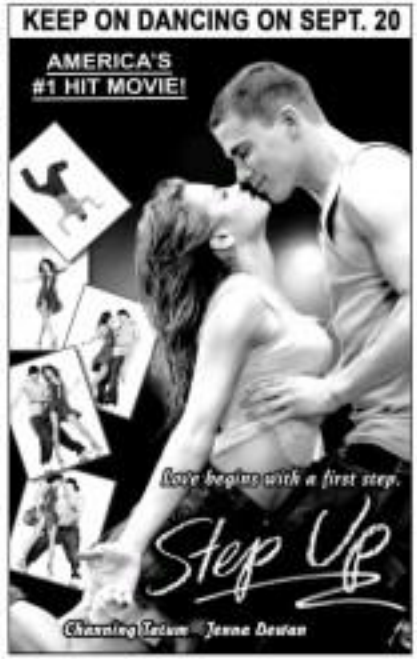
Dolly Ann Carvajal

Hitchhiker

Michelle Madrigal was seen hitching a ride home with Victor Neri after the Sinta event at Shang. Hit or hot place? Pop tell, Michelle.

Triplets' comeback

The former "triplets" of the '80s Sheryl Cruz, Thea Perez and Shandyn Reynes are back in the news again. Sheryl and Mara are part of "Sinkhilang" while Thea plays a special role on the TV series "Crazy Sa You." It's the first time Sheryl is playing a full length role. Bulalo role. "I got so excited, sawy with my scenes that I had to take aspirin afterwards.

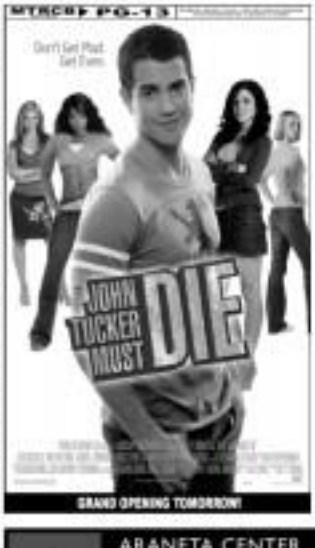


ENTERTAINMENT

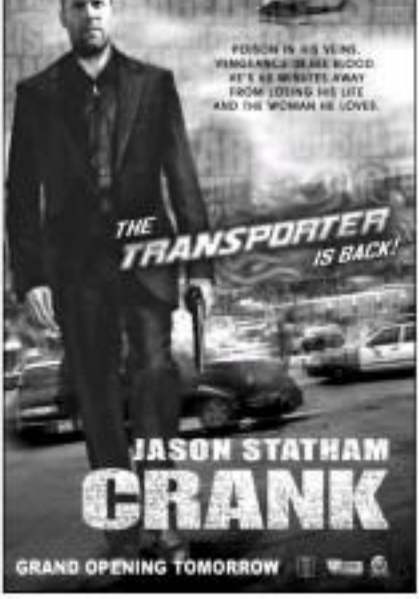
Lead singer Aia de Leon is a hypnotic performer and has a flexible voice

Imago's 'E

M M T A
METRO MANILA THEATERS ASSOCIATION
MOVIE GUIDE
NOW SHOWING



GRAND OPENING TOMORROW!



TUESDAY,
MBER 12, 2006

Blush' . . .

o 'love . . .

ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD CINEMAS MOVIE GUIDE

CINEMA ACCESS
635-5555
FOR ALL BRANCHES

www.robinsonsmovieworld.com

MOVIEWORLD EXPRESS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

GALLERIA

1 THE WICKER MAN + THX
2 YOU ARE THE ONE
3 THE DEVIL WEARS PRADA
4 MONSTER HOUSE
5 RESERVE
6 YOU, ME AND DUPREE
7 SNAKES ON A PLANE
8 LITTLE MAN
9 CLICK
10 ETERNITY

ERMITA

1 THE WICKER MAN
2 YOU, ME AND DUPREE
3 MONSTER HOUSE
4 THE DEVIL WEARS PRADA
5 YOU ARE THE ONE
6 SNAKES ON A PLANE
7 ETERNITY

METRO EAST

1 SNAKES ON A PLANE
2 RESERVE
3 YOU ARE THE ONE
4 MONSTER HOUSE
5 THE DEVIL WEARS PRADA
6 YOU, ME AND DUPREE
7 THE WICKER MAN
8 ETERNITY

NOVALICHES

1 MONSTER HOUSE
2 ETERNITY
3 YOU, ME AND DUPREE
4 THE WICKER MAN
5 YOU ARE THE ONE

CITISQUARE MALABON / PIONEER

1 YOU ARE THE ONE
2 MY SUPER EX-GIRLFRIEND
3 RESERVE
4 RESERVE
1 THE WICKER MAN
2 MONSTER HOUSE
3 YOU ARE THE ONE
4 YOU, ME AND DUPREE

STA. ROSA / LIPA

1 YOU ARE THE ONE
2 MIAMI VICE
3 MONSTER HOUSE
4 ETERNITY
1 MY SUPER EX-GIRLFRIEND
2 YOU ARE THE ONE
3 MORTUARY
4 ETERNITY

DASMARIÑAS / ANGELES

1 MONSTER HOUSE
2 SNAKES ON A PLANE
3 YOU ARE THE ONE
4 ETERNITY
1 SNAKES ON A PLANE
2 ETERNITY
3 YOU ARE THE ONE
4 MONSTER HOUSE

IMUS / STARMILLS

1 ETERNITY
2 SNAKES ON A PLANE
3 YOU ARE THE ONE
4 MONSTER HOUSE
1 MONSTER HOUSE
2 YOU ARE THE ONE
3 STAY ALIVE
4 ETERNITY
5 SNAKE SON A PLANE
6 MIAMI VICE

BACOLOD / ILOILO

1 YOU ARE THE ONE
2 MORTUARY
3 MONSTER HOUSE
4 MY SUPER EX-GIRLFRIEND
5 ETERNITY
6 MIAMI VICE
1 MONSTER HOUSE
2 YOU ARE THE ONE
3 ETERNITY
4 MORTUARY

The Perfect Gift
All Year Round
A Pre Paid Movie Pass to the Hottest Seats in town.

SM CINEMA movietime SHOWTIME

Your life at a movie

NOW SHOWING AT IMAX

See the entire movie in IMAX 3D
P 250 (Matinee: Mondays to Thursdays)
P 300 (From 5 p.m. onwards on weekdays and all screenings on weekends)

See select scenes in IMAX 3D
P 200 (Admission Price)

Please call 556-IMAX or 556 3242 for screening time and reservations

EXCLUSIVE

FRESH NEW MOVIE

SHOWTIME

GET YOUR FREE TICKETS!

ENTERTAINMENT

OPENS SEPT.20
BASED ON THE #1 BEST SELLING VIDEO GAME BY TECMO
DOA
DEAD OR ALIVE

New filmmakers evaluate Cinemalaya

FOR THE FIRST TWO YEARS, THE Cinemalaya showcase film festival and competition has provided a showcase for new filmmakers and their first digital shorts and full-length features.

Getting us it did in a particularly low point in the local film industry's fortunes, the Fest festival in 2005 provided a burst of energy and creativity that excited movie buffs and caught the attention of mainstream movers.

Even better, Cinemalaya's outstanding indie productions challenged some mainstream filmmakers and producers to energize their movies—or, well, the viewing public is the better for it.

We believe it's no coincidence that, after the first Cinemalaya, the production of local movies began to pick up, and we're now facing the happy prospect of better films for Filipino film people all around.

But, what do new filmmakers feel about Cinemalaya and what it's done for them? We conducted an informal survey, and here are its hopefully instructive findings.

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

Limitations

MOST filmmakers generally agree that Cinemalaya has predicated the important and unprecedented opening book inform an opportunity to show what they can do, thanks to the screening venues it provides, and the financial grant that Tony Boy Gipanga has given for the past two years (and counting).

Unproven film talent have always been there, but Cinemalaya spikes initiatives like Cinemalaya to challenge them and help bring them to the attention of viewers and producers.

On the other hand, new filmmakers are some limitations either to Cinemalaya that could affect the career paths they choose to take after the festival has launched them.

They feel that the digital nature of the competition hampers the films' "movie-ness" possibilities on the mainstream screen.

Too dark

YES, there are some digital theaters available, but the "digital look" is thought to be too dark and grainy to be accepted by the mainstream audience.

Another problem is, it's too expensive to transfer digital to celluloid for wider release, so producers encounter unnecessary problems both entering and going.

As a result, some new filmmakers have opted to launch their careers with Cinemalaya, but to move to make mainstream movies.

They thank Cinemalaya for the big break, but at this point in time, they don't see a viable future for them, where in the digital mode, particularly if they want to reach the same movie audience.

Additions

ANOTHER insight is provided by new filmmakers who don't limit themselves to the P500,000 production grant, but make additional arrangements with post-production houses to ensure better technical quality for their movies.

Other new filmmakers stress the importance of some star value so as to make it easier for them to interest more viewers in their productions. They are grateful to some actors who appear in their movies for very minimal fees.

So, the interviews based on two years of Cinemalaya in Tabo advantage of the break and showcase the festival provides, make sure you have a unique story to tell, secure some star support, worry about going beyond the dark and grainy digital look and eventually cross over to mainstream, "safer" cinema to reach the same audience. Other new filmmakers, take note.

family movie treat
2 movie tickets for the price of 1
SEPTEMBER 11 to SEPTEMBER 28, 2006
ANY MOVIE, Mondays and Tuesdays ONLY in Branch Only

PG-13
OPENS SEPTEMBER 13
AMERICA'S HOTTEST AND SEXIEST STARS
TOGETHER IN A ROMANTIC COMEDY
HUGH JACKMAN SCARLETT JOHANSSON
THE PERFECT MAN. THE PERFECT MATCH. THE PERFECT LOVE STORY?
SCOOP
"JACKMAN AND JOHANSSON, HANDLE THE SEXUAL HIJINKS IN STYLE!" Peter Travers, ROLLING STONE
"JACKMAN IS IN FULL CARY GRANT MODE. JOHANSSON IS LUMINOUS!"
"A CHARMING ROMANTIC COMEDY THRILLER"
"THE FUNNIEST MOVIE OF THE YEAR SO FAR!"
"GUARANTEED TO KEEP YOU SMILING!"

OPENS SEPTEMBER 13
bonne poche
Unico Entertainment
A heartwarming story of love, survival and family in the coldest place on earth.
Penguin, Penguin, Paano Ka Ginawa?
(March of the Penguins 2001 Oscar® Award Winner: Best Documentary)
narrated by SHARON CUNETA